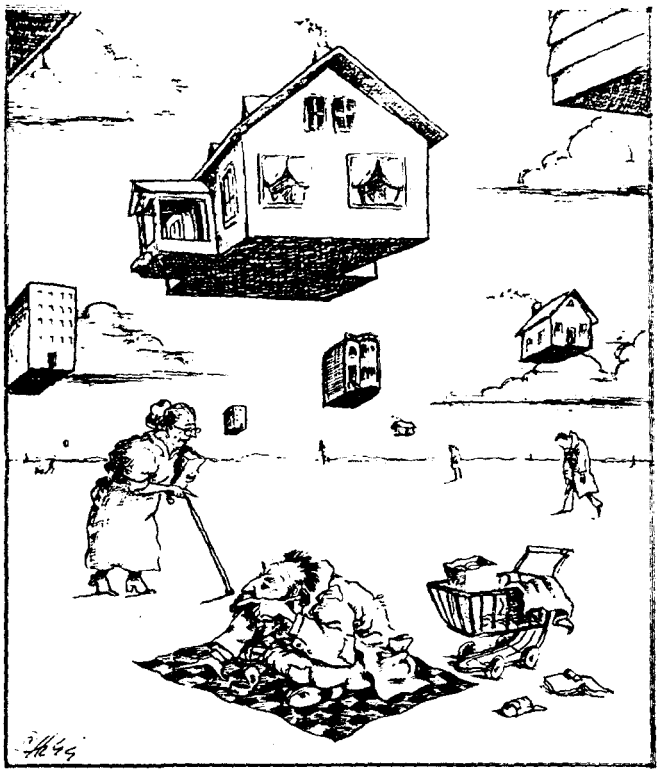
NUMBER 252
DECEMBER 1985

The Progressive Review

THE OVERSEAS OFFICE

Africa's disillusioned youth



Comstock returns

New dream houses

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

POLITICS

The politics of confusion

"I voted against the referendum. That was right wasn't it?" Given the fact that the night before the caller had said she wanted to vote to strengthen rent control, we had to explain that, no, that wasn't right. There's no way of knowing how many people, confused by the wording of the ballot and by literature put out by the real estate industry and signed by black ministers close to the mayor, voted the wrong way but it is clear that this heavily renter-city did not turn in the majority for the referendum that might have been expected.

The confusion aside, the especially low turnout was certainly a factor. Homeowners tend to be proportionately better represented in low turn-out elections and the wards that voted against the referendum were those with high concentrations of home ownership, even though some have a large tenant population as well.

The referendum carried with just 50.8% support amongst the 44,000 voters. Here by ward are the percentages of voters supporting the referendum:

Ward 1	67%
Ward 8	63%
Ward 2	55%
Ward 7	51%
Ward 5	50%
Ward 6	50%
Ward 4	47%
Ward 3	38%

With passage of the referendum, the first in the city's home rule history, rent control is restored to single-family homes, vacant or near vacant buildings in many instances, and buildings vacated after 1989. The council has to wait a year before amending any of these provisions. The passage is a slap in the face to the mayor and the majority of the council (led by John Ray) who had approved the exemptions in the face of strong community opposition.

Three opponents of the referendum are up for re-election next year (Spaulding, Winter and Kane) and there is talk among housing activists of targeting them for defeat. Given the power of the city's incumbentocracy, however, this would be no easy feat. In fact, the only ward member of the council who voted opposite from their constituency on the rent control issue was Polly Shackleton who is retiring.

Perhaps the most vulnerable of the referendum opponents is William Spaulding who represents a ward known for its multi-candidate races. If the opposition to Spaulding were to unite for a change, it is possible that he could be picked off. And there are some who feel a run by Capitol Hill activist Ted Gay could defeat Nadine Winter. Winter, meanwhile, is opening a constituent office in the Anacostia part of her district to boost her support in the section of the ward that voted for the rent control referendum. At present, no strong opponent has

Published approximately ten times a year. Single copies by mail are $1 each. Ten issue subscription: $6. Twenty issue subscription: $10. The Review uses the services of Pacific News Service, Rip'n'Read News Service, College Press Service and HerSay News Service. The Review welcomes articles and letters but unfortunately cannot pay for them. All submissions should be made with a stamped self-addressed envelope if you wish the material returned. Deadline for editorial and advertising matter is the 15th of the month.

EDITOR: Sam Smith
CONTRIBUTING CORRESPONDENTS: Charles McDowell, Chuck Stone, Eugene McCarthy, Des Wilson, Mike Bell
CARTOONIST: John Wiebenson

THE PROGRESSIVE REVIEW
1739 Conn Ave NW
DC 20009
202-232-5544

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

surfaced to run against Betty Ann Kane.

In a related matter, a recent analysis by the city government says that DC gained only 2,100 housing units between 1970 and 1980, a less than one percent increase. Given the number of politicians who committed themselves to "affordable housing" during this timespan, the result must be considered a failure of no small magnitude. And it would have been much worse had it not been for the 4100 new housing units gained in Ward 3 and another 3300 in Wards 5 and 7. The central city (Wards 1, 2 and 6) lost a total of 5100 units during the period.

Of course, the city was losing population as well -- down 16% during the period with a 4% loss in the number of households. But home-hunters did not benefit from this differential in part because it occurred at the same time as widespread condominization and other speculative practices that took housing temporarily off the market. The number of year round vacant units went up from 15,800 in 1970 to 23,600 in 1980. This 7800-unit loss breaks down this way:

Vacant units for sale	+2800
Units already sold but not occupied	+2600
Units held for occasional use	-300
Boarded up units, new units not yet ready for sale & other	+2900

As of 1980, long after rent control had gone into effect, there were only 2200 boarded up units in the city not for rent or for sale. It is clear from the figures that property owners were not fleeing from their buildings but were merely taking advantage of better profits available as the result of the yuppification of the city.

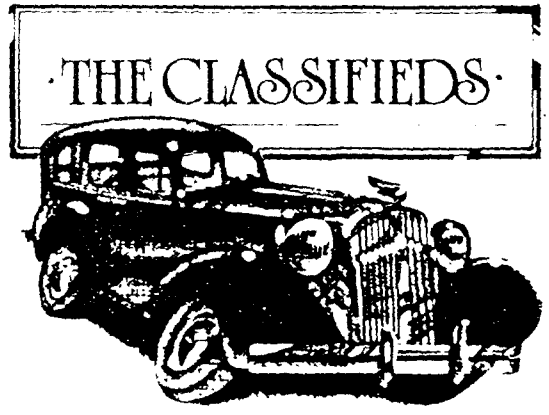
*

Wilder pulled well with whites

Doug Wilder not only ran well in Northern Virginia black precincts but in many predominantly white precincts as well. Exit polls indicate that Wilder got 46% of the Virginia white vote.

Sammie loses by a hair

Sammie Abbott, who presided over the rise of Takoma Park as one of the premier progressive towns of America, lost his bid for re-election as mayor by just seven votes. Abbott, who had been mayor for five years, and who has been well-known in the area as a progressive activist dating back to the anti-freeway struggles, came under criticism for not spending enough time on local problems, a charge he and his supporters vigorously denied. His combative style was also a subject of debate. In the past few years, Takoma Park has declared itself a nuclear-free zone and, most recently, a sanctuary for refugees from Central America. One resident of



Classified ads are ten cents a word. Count your own words and send payment with ad to the Progressive Review, 1739 Conn. Ave NW, DC 20009

ADDRESS LABELS: We have changed the type of labels we use for mailing the Progessive Review and have a supply of Avery #5351 self-adhesive labels for sale at $15 a box. Each box contains 100 sheets 8 1/2x 11. 3300 labels 1" x " 2 3/4". Call the Review at 202-232-5544.

DISARMER'S HANDBOOK: 318 pages. What everyone needs to know about weapons and war. Send $5.95 (includes handling) to RECON, PO Box 14602, Philaelphia Pa 19134.

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

the town said that the election pitted "the flower children against the flower box children." . . . .Takoma Park voters also strongly supported unification of the town within Montgomery County, rather than split with Prince Georges County as is now the case. PG officials are opposing the idea.

Last hurrah for Va. right?

In a blow to the Virginia right-wing that may have repercussions elsewhere, the Democratic Party retained the governorship with a winning slate including a black candidate for lieutenant governor and a woman candidate for attorney-general. One of the winners, Doug Wilder, described the results as the "last hurrah" for former governor Mills Godwin and other Byrd machine alumni. Typical of this change was the vote in Rappahannock County. Fifteen years ago, Rappahannock gave 68% of its vote to Harry Byrd Jr. running for re-election to the Senate as an independent. This year, the black Wilder received a slight majority in the county.

The White House tried to downplay the significance of the race after initially throwing both the president and the vice president personally into the campaign. After signs of a Republican defeat began appearing, President Reagan reportedly refused to make a second visit to Virginia to boost the candidacy of Wyatt Durette.

It is worth noting that Baliles & Co. achieved their success in no small part by projecting a traditional conservative image against the more militant conservatism of their opponents, typified by the rather startling TV commercial featuring a police trooper saying why he was going to vote for Doug Wilder. Wilder, the first black elected to a major southern statewide office since Reconstruction, says the ad did "nothing less than win the election for me." He also said, "I'm not a threat to anyone."

The Richmond Times-Dispatch reported that "Wilder and his running mate Mary Sue Terry. . . .engineered their historic victories by steering clear of issues that might identify them as champions of black or women's issues. Their successful strategy. . . .allowed them to run as mainstream candidates in the moderate-conservative mold of Governor Charles S. Robb." It is to be expected that Robb will use the win to argue with other Democrats that a middling political course is best — with the implicit suggestion that he is eminently qualified, at the national level, to follow it. He has already been proclaimed by the head of the Democratic National Committee, Paul Kirk, as "a name that is going to be talked about." Of the 34 Democratic governors "he is one of the stars (and) stands alone (sic) as one of the leaders in the party."

The Young win

On her second try, Phyllis Young defeated long-time DC at-large school board member Barbara Simmons by 3000 votes. Although Simmons ally Calvin Lockridge narrowly won re-election in Ward Eight, Young's victory marks the end of an era that was, at its height, marked by extreme factionalism and controversy, combined with a rapid succession of school superintendents. The school board will go into its next term less divided than at any time in its history.

Young, who pulled heavily in white precincts with a tradition of public school activism, and received more than her margin of victory in Ward 3, won two wards that voted heavily for the rent control referendum (1 & 2), one that strongly opposed it (3) and one that split its decision(6). Here are the percentages by ward:

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

Ward	Young	Simmons
Ward Three	45%	11%
Ward Six	39%	25%
Ward Two	30%	23%
Ward One	28%	25%
Ward Four	26%	30%
Ward Five	25%	32%
Ward Seven	24%	35%
Ward Eight	22%	39%

Young, a leader of the highly effective Parents United and a former ANC chair, joins such other former citizen school activists as Wanda Washburn and Bob Boyd on the board. Her victory suggests the power of organized parents to overcome the normal political dynamics of the town and get the sort of people they want on the board. Unfortunately, this ability may be curtailed in future elections because of the council and mayoral decision to combine the supposedly non-partisan shcool board races with the council elections.

ultimately would make a better candidate and would have a better chance of winning." Henry Koellein, president of the Baltimore Labor Council, said, however, "I think it's a weakness on labor's part that we're going to split like this. The most any of them should be doing is getting together to make a recommendation to the state AFL-CIO."

Meanwhile, A. Robert Kaufman has announced his candidacy. Kaufman is a longtime civil rights and peace activist who ran unsuccessfully for the Senate in 1964 as a Socialist write-in choice. At his announcement news conference, Kaufman said, "Investment capital being wasted on the military and other foms of speculation should be directed toward invesment in things necessary to our human survival."

Other candidates in the race are Governor Harry Hughes and Baltimore County Executive Donald Hutchinson.

Md. progressives split on Senate

In a race that is already splitting Maryland progressives, Barbara Mikulski and Mike Barnes are vying for support from the same quarters as they attempt to gain the Senate seat opened up with the retirement of Charles Mathias. Three labor groups with some 80,000 members have lined up behind Barnes while Mikulski is expected to get the support of Baltimore labor groups. The three groups behind Barnes are the Food and Allied Service Trade Union, the Greater Washington Building Trades Union and the Teamsters Joint Council. One union leader said the early endorsement was the unionists idea, not Barnes', and that while Mikulski had a strongly pro-labor record they felt Barnes was a stronger candidate. Said Tom McNutt, president of the United Food and Commercial Workers Local 400, with a membership around 30,000, "We personally believe that Mike

Ending the Specter spectre

Arlen Specter, chair of the DC Senate appropriations subcommittee, has been the most meddlesome person to hold

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

that post in some time. Not only has he been in the forefront of trying to force the city to build a new prison, he even threatened the other day to force it to raise its legal drinking age. Specter is up for re-election in a race that has national implications. He will be challenged in the Pennsylvania Republican primary by Governor Thornburgh and, if he wins, by the Democrat chosen in that party's primary. The best Democrat running is Bob Edgar, a good liberal with a 95% ADA voting record and who is a minister who has won repeatedly despite representing a strongly Republican district. If you want to do both your nation and DC a favor, Edgar would welcome your help.

•

Doug Wilder raised nearly a quarter of his campaign funds in the Washington area. Among those raising $200,000 in northern Virginia and DC were members of the Congressional Black Caucus, who joined together for the first time to support a candidate financially. A fund raiser at the home of Rep. Harold Ford (D-Tenn) raised nearly $17,000.

•

Early starters in the race to replace Rep. Mike Barnes next year include county council member Esther Gelman, who has backed development interests and received developer support in the past. (Please turn to page 10)

AN ENDORSEMENT

There is one candidate running in Ward III in the race to replace Polly Shackleton on the DC Council who has demonstrated the sort of qualities the ward and the city need on that body. Mark Plotkin, chair of the Glover Park-Burleith Neighborhood Commission, has demonstrated the kind of commitment and effectiveness that has been too often missing from DC politics of late.

He has been one of the leading opponents of local measured service, one of the ways the phone company has attempted to raise rates unreasonably.

He was successful in getting the mayor to agree to add a medic unit at Tenley Circle to improve the ward's underserved ambulance facilities.

He was a leader in the fight for passage of the civil infractions act that imposes fines and sanctions against property owners with building code violations.

He has been a leading voice calling for the opening up of boards and commissions.

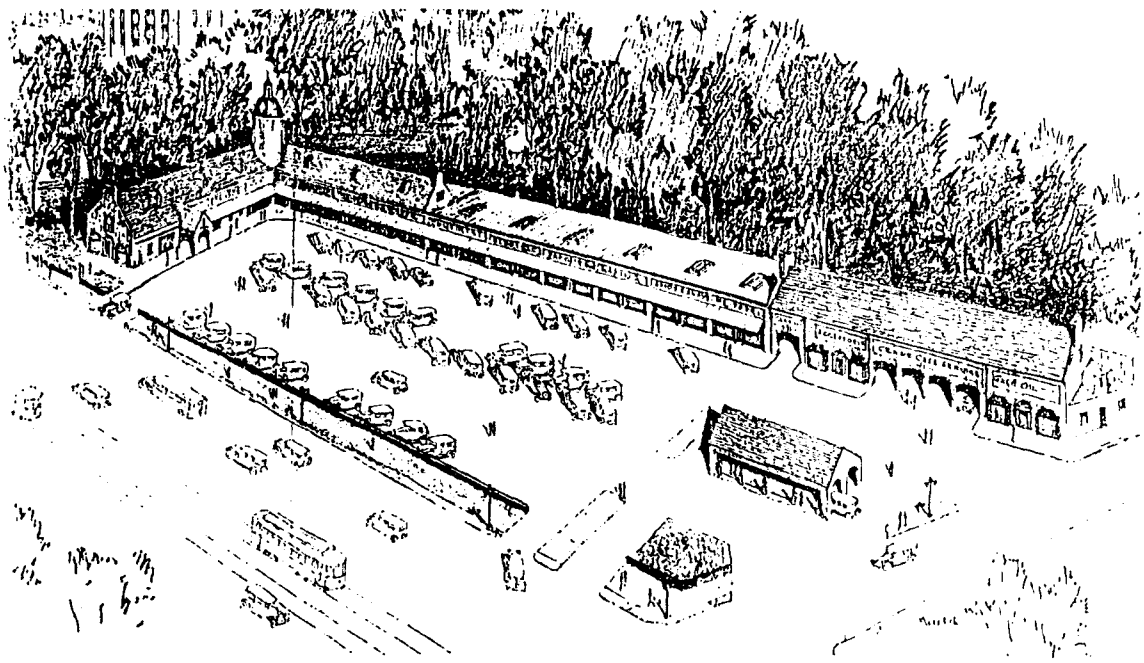
And he has been a major supporter of rent control in the ward.

While his views on some matters are shared by other candidates, the big difference is that Plotkin, even without being on the council, has been an important one-man lobby for the ward at the District Building, while at the same time working in a non-parochial manner with others across DC for citywide goals. Elsewhere, Ward III tends to be dismissed as white and wealthy. Some ward politicians have tended to soft-pedal real ward concerns to maintain good relations with the mayor and other city politicians. The result has been that developers have had free reign in the ward, the concerns of the ward's less fortunate residents have not been given adequate attention and justifiable problems have been down-played in the name of political harmony.

Mark Plotkin is a member neither of the Shackleton nor the Barry machine. He is an independent politician who would, we think, stand up for the ward when it needs it — not isolating it, but making it an unapologetic member of the political whole. He would, at the same time, be a constructive and progressive participant in debates on citywide issues.

To represent both the ward and the city's interests requires skill, sensitivity, and political understanding. These characteristics, among all the candidates, Mark Plotkin displays best.

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED



Preserving the Modest

Sam Smith

The owner of our local shopping center wants to tear it down. No one knows for sure what the company would put in its place, but the site is right at the Cleveland Park Metro station and, if the past is any guide, we can expect something big, boxy, bland and boorish, which will add nothing to the community except traffic. The neighborhood is organizing to fight the invasion of the killer cartons that have already flattened much of developable Washington leaving the city, as one person put it, looking as though someone had flown over it dumping out ice cubes. The bovine stolidity that characterizes downtown and, increasingly, such uptown locations as Van Ness and Friendship Heights, is precisely what many Cleveland Parkers don't want. They appreciate not only the history and grace of their community but the eclecticism that ranges from Queen Anne to drugstore deco pragmatic to eighties modern additions.

The plans for the Park & Shop at Connecticut & Ordway are seen as the first step in a process of destroying a lovablely funky business strip of several blocks that provides everything from superb pasta to videos to some of the last of the cheap haircuts. It's the sort of complex that annoys city planners because it doesn't make much planning sense. In fact, you couldn't plan it; it is there because it works.

As we went to press, the local neighborhood commission had withdrawn its request for landmark status and the owners had withdrawn their request for a demolition permit pending negotiations. Meanwhile, the city has promised to speed hearings on the Cleveland Park Historic District of which the park & shop would be a part. This deal buys some time but in no way ensures the preservation of the building, which, if the owners have their way, would become a planned unit development (the current euphemism for spot rezoning).

Some people have expressed surprise that a 1930 shopping center, indeed any shopping center, could qualify for landmark status. This reaction, mostly outside the neighborhood, provides yet another example of how limited the popular view of history often is, and how

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

especially this is so when that history is represented by a building.

Historians have markedly changed their own view of what history is, but many of us who are not historians are still trapped, to some degree, in the narrow view that Miss Thumpberger dispensed in sixth grade, a view that equated history with Someone Important and Something Big. In historical circles and, mercifully, in many schools that view is disappearing. A few years ago, one of my sons took part in a seventh grade mock trial of Christopher Columbus to determine whether he should have his holiday taken away because he was so mean to the Central Americans upon whom he landed. When I learned about Columbus, the recipients of his explorations were barely discussed; it was presumed, I guess, that they were dutifully grateful to have been discovered at last.

So the young may appreciate the history of the ordinary, or social history, better than some of us who were taught a history that consisted of an endless and confusing succession of kings, military men and their wars and governments, leading inexplicably to the League of Nations, where history suddenly stopped because the year was over and we had run out of time.

The space between the League of Nations (or the Spanish-American War or whereever the clock ran out) and now was, by inference, not a part of history, but a sort of No-Great-Man's- Land between the present and the past. Which may be one reason why some find it hard to see the historical value in a 1930 shopping center. Neither in terms of chronology nor in terms of grandeur does it fit the earlier standards of history.

But, by contemporary historical standards, it very much does. This is one reason why the head of the historic preservation department at George Washington University is so interested in preserving it. Richard Longstreth, like many historians, fully appreciates that you can't understand American history without considering its commercial past. Think, for example, how dull Williamsburg, Sturbridge the Museum of American History or Mystic would be without attention to that past. The development of the modern shopping center must surely be one of the most significant commercial developments of our recent history, so much so that one West Coast scholar recently suggested that the shopping mall had become the community, replacing such older institutions as the church.

As so often happens with history outside the sphere of biggest, most powerful, grandest and so forth, the importance of the Cleveland Park shopping center went largely unnoticed until recently.

But that does not mean that it was not significant. It was, after all, as Longstreth puts it, "a very early example of a neighborhood shopping center oriented for the automobile in which the supermarket was the anchor facility." A 1963 article in the Washington Post quoted Richard Sanders, president of Parking Stores Inc., as saying "This was the first, if small, shopping operation with free parking to be built in the area. It proved to be the forerunner of many others established within the District and also (of) the giant park-shop complexes that have been created in suburban area."

In short, this modest center, with the buildings set back to provide space for cars, was at the beginning of a retail movement that would dramatically affect the nature of the metropolitan life in the years to come. Ironically, this neighorhood-serving innovation would inspire suburban planning that produced huge shopping malls far from neighborhoods left with few if any services near at hand.

DRIVE IN . . .
AND PARK!
Easily . . Quickly . . and Safely!
Here at Park and Shop Stores, Connecticut Ave. at Ordway and Porter Streets, there is always ample space for your car in the private parking area in front of the stores.
With one convenient stop you can visit several or all of these attractive shops, where you will find courteous, smiling service, prices that please and a uniformly high quality of merchandise in a variety that will satisfy your every usual shopping need.
PEOPLES HARDWARE STORES
Everything in hardware and paints.
"We always sell for less"
BARKER (Original) BAKERY
—Old Time Salt Rising Bread
FRAZEE-POTOMAC LAUNDRY
A trial will convince you of our ability to serve you.
WHITTLESEY'S DRUG STORE
Fast delivery service to all Washington and nearby Maryland
Phone Cleveland ....
PIGGLY WIGGLY
Aisles of Smiles
The Great ATLANTIC & PACIFIC Tea Co.
Quality Groceries Meats Fruits and Vegetables
Courteous Service Low Prices
PARK and SHOP
CONNECTICUT AVENUE
AT ORDWAY & PORTER STS.

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

Not a particularly noble legacy— but just as history does not have to be pretty, it doesn't always have to have a happy ending.

Professional planners and architects recognized the significance early. The center was featured in an 1932 article about shopping centers in the Architectural Record: "A Planned Grouping of Shops with parking space that does not interfere with traffic at the main throughfare." A 1934 AR piece cited the center as the primary example of a good approach to neighborhood shopping center design.

Today, the center stands as the first park & shop in the area and one of the earliest still remaining anywhere in the country.

It is, though, painfully modest. And in a town that gawks at the treasure houses of Britain but tears down its own oldest downtown commercial structure, and which came within inches of destroying such grand buildings of value on Pennsylvania Avenue as the Old Post Office and the Willard, preserving the modest is a difficult task. The city's sensitivity to its history has grown considerably since such early battles as the Old Post Office, but we still short-change our past in many ways and there still is is a tendency to accept the view that history must be beautiful.

This is in part because architectural historians were among the first to attempt to save old buildings. Their natural bias was architectural: you save things because of their architectural significance not because of what happened there or what the place symbolizes or typifies. And the bias of the architectural historians unfortunately blended with a certain elitist bias among preservationists. Together, what they were really up to was a form of historical censorship. From an aesthetic point of view a case could be made for this approach, although often it reflected subjective cultural values more than objective standards, but from a historic point — and after all we are talking about **historic** preservation, what was being created was, in a sense, a lie. Thus it was not until relatively recently that Williamsburg began to deal honestly and creatively with some of the historical lies it had long sponsored — such as ignoring the crucial issue of slavery.

Here in Washington, there was a real difference in the way that Don't Tear It Down, the first effective modern preservation group, approached history and the manner of the later-established Art Deco Society. Because of its bias towards beautiful history, DTID could sacrifice Rhodes Tavern for a couple of pretty and much more recent facades. The Art Deco Society, on the other hand, early got involved in the preservation of ordinary and commercial Washington.

The concept of historic preservation has broadened and, in the broadening, become more honest. This is important, especially so in a city where the majority population has so little representation of its past. When the city's black-led government accedes to a definition of history provided by an elite primarily interested in looks rather than heritage, it is defeating its own self-interest, because black historical sites, as with the Cleveland Park shopping center, can not win their place in history on glamor, only on significance and typicality.

But while we are more careful about our past than we were, we still have a ways to go. Consider the fact that some of the city's most historic sites and ones most honestly revelatory of history are among those most rarely visited by the average tourist or even residents: Georgetown's Old Stone House, the Frederick Douglass home, the Heurich mansion, the Woodrow Wilson home. These are places you can go to learn history yet they are relegated to the minor league of tourism.

Given that history is not a high priority in elementary or secondary education and that reading appears to be coming to be an increasingly esoteric activity, physical evidence of our past is more important than ever. We need reminders that cities can be, and for a long time were, organized on a model other than the warehouse shelf, the apparent inspiration for contemporary Washington developers. When I am in the Cleveland Park shopping center I feel as though I am in the Washington of my childhood; it is an accurate souvenir from the time before the new architectural barbarians swept across the town, arrogantly driving the human and the lively out of the city.

More importantly, it is a souvenir from a time when the city enjoyed a natural physical growth that came out of needs and experience rather than from injections of structural steroids that give it the illusion of gain while hiding the long-term physical and psychological damage being done.

Few would argue that Cleveland Park lacks historic value. But to say that, one must also accept the historic value of its shopping districts. Because the character of the community, as with any well-functioning community, is intimately tied to its stores. Attend a gathering of Cleveland Parkers and talk eventually will turn to one or more of the shops. The neighbrhood school, John Eaton, once did a revue of neighborhood history. At the beginning slides of

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

neighborhood people were shown; the ones eliciting the most recognition were the familiar faces of those who worked in the shops. We might not know each other, but we all knew them. Cleveland Park could be just another collection of nice houses were it not for its strong identity with its shopping areas. To destroy these shops is to damage the commmunity as much as tearing down a block of turn of the century houses for a high-rise. And to fail to understand the need to preserve **whole** communities that long ago established the sort of mixed use that planners and politicians are always saying they seek but so seldom create, is to fail to understand the sort of lessons we can learn by history and its presevation.

Interestingly, the life of the park & shop's architect, Arthur Heaton, was a reflection of the multi-sided community in which he lived and worked. He designed not only the shopping center, but several neighborhood homes and apartment buildings, two school additions and was supervising architect of National Cathedral for thirteen years. It is this very eclecticism that Cleveland Park likes to celebrate in its community life and would like to preserve of its past. Which is why a 1930 shopping center has become such an important issue and symbol for the neighborhood.

POLITICS

Observers give Henry Hudson, Arlington Commonwealth's Attorney, an inside track to replace Elsie Munsell as US Attorney for eastern Virginia. Hudson is head of the controversial Attorney General's Commission on Pornography and once threatened to sue an Arlington cable TV company for airing the Playboy channel.

•

The DC chapter of Common Cause has filed a complaint in US District Court to prevent the D.C. government from spending public funds to campaign against citizen initiative questions.

The lawsuit is the result of the DC Department of Human Services expenditures of over $4,700 to campaign against the overnight shelter initiative. Common Cause feels that the expenditure of funds was improper, unauthorized by the DC Budget and violated the right of voters to cast a free ballot.

On election day, 1984, the DC government posted signs at polling places urging the voters to "Vote No" on the initiative.

Common Cause is asking the court to issue a declaratory judgement and a permanent injunction to preclude the government from spending public funds or using public employees to prepare and distribute election propaganda in initiative and referenda campaigns.

JUSTICE

Home of the free

The ACLU has filed suit against a Park Police officer and the government in a case growing out of an incident on the Mall last 4th of July. Leslie Miller and her boyfriend Stuart Lynn were enjoying the music when a police officer seized their picnic bag without warning and began to search it. When they protested, the officer punched Leslie in the face, breaking her jaw, and hit Stuart on the head with his nightstick. Nothing unlawful was ever found in their bag. Miller and Lynn were not arrested until they appeared at the First Aid tent to get medical assistance to file complaints against the officer.

Paying for signatures

Robin Ficker has been the sponsor of nine initiatives on the Montgomery County ballot in the past several years. In order to obtain the 10,000 valid signatures that are required to place an initiative on the ballot, he hires students to circulate his petitions and pays up to 25 cents per signature obtained. State officials recently discovered that there is a Maryland law against paying people to circulate petitions, and Ficker has been threatened with criminal prosecution unless he promises to sin no more. The ACLU has filed suit on his behalf arguing that the state law is

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

unconstitutional because spending money to circulate a petition is no different from spending money for a newspaper or radio ad urging people to sign the petition — it is a form of speech protected by the First Amendment.

Harrassing youth

Nadine Winter has introduced a bill in the DC Council that would prohibit 16 and 17 year olds from driving between midnight and six am. This is another in a long string of curfew and quasi-curfew bills proposed by councilmembers who seem to think that the best way to handle teenagers is to throw them in jail. It was the same spirit that led to a punitive and arbitrary law restricting youths in the playing of video games at certain times. The current proposal is just as silly and, besides, says the ACLU, it's unconstitutional. The organization points out that the same statistics used to buttress Winter's bill could be used to prohibit driving by all males or by teenagers from 2 to 4 pm.

House arrest

Fairfax County is about to begin an experiment with house arrest for people convicted of minor offenses. The program, which involves the use of a radio transmitter attached to some part of the body that can be monitored by telephone, has already been tried in a few places and has received good reviews.

Restricting the park

The Park Service, which wants to restrict manifestations of protest in Lafayette Park, has received petitions signed by 3000 vigil supporters in 42 states and 40 countries in response to its request for public comment on the new regulations. Leading the effort against the new restrictions is Friends of the First Amendment (Info: Winnie Gallent, 462-3542)

Among the groups opposing the restrictions is the Sierra Club. Referring to its "unique perspective," the club called the proposed regulations inappropriate and arbitrary." The White House Vigil for the ERA Committee said that "true democracy is rarely an orderly process. Strict order tends to be the byproduct of totalitarian, repressive regimes with little respect for individual rights."

Some movement on DC Jail

Getting in just under a court-ordered first-stage deadline, the DC officials announced that they had reduced the population of the DC jail to below the 1694 inmate limit set last July by Judge William Bryant. Bryant, who has been in a years-long battle with the DC government to end inhumane conditions at the jail, had ordered an eight stage reduction in overcrowding. The city achieved the reduction through transfers to Lorton and to federal prisons and by assigning some prisoners to halfway houses.

Atheist loses

Atheist Arnold Via of Grottoes, Va., has lost his attempt for a court ruling giving him the right to a vanity licence plate reading ATH-EST. The court upheld the right of the state to reject the plate, even though it has distributed such plates as SAVED, PRAY and RISEN.

Not traditional

The Pageant of Peace Committee has rejected a sculpture of a homeless family huddled over a steam grate as "not appropriate to the theme of Christmas." A representative for the National Park Service said "This year's theme is "A Traditional Christmas, and this statue was not considered appropriate subject matter." The statute had been commissioned by the Community for Creative Non-Violence; it includes real steam that would envelope the homeless family. Said CCNV's Mitch Snyder, "Christ was a homeless child. This family is a generic representation of homeless families across this country for whom there still is no room at the inn."

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

St. Elizabeths

The mayor is to be heartily commended for his unequivocal position that the city must provide more city-funded group homes in every ward. These group homes are needed for youth foster care and rehabilitation, for the mentally retarded and the chronically mentally ill, for the physically disabled and for adult rehabilitation.

One significant factor was omitted by the mayor. In 1987 the District of Columbia will receive a significant new resource. The beautiful 336-acre campus of St. Elizabeths Hospital will be transferred from federal to city ownership. This finely landscaped property has a number of buildings unlikely to be slated for full hospital use under the mayor's proposed design for a comprehensive mental health system. The conversion of these buildings into nursing homes, detoxification centers and shelters for battered women and children, as well as for the homeless who are mentally ill, warrents immediate study. Proximity to the hospital facilities and its well established care systems, under centralized case management, promises effective as well as cost-efficient programs. This is particularly important in this period when there is a serious squeeze on social service money.

There is also a low-income housing crunch in Washington. Vacancy rates in the city are at a 2–3% rate whereas a vacancy rate of 5–6% is deemed necessary to provide a true rental market. There is a 13,000-plus family waiting list for public or subsidized housing with a seven-year waiting period expectancy. Obviously, city funding for a greatly increased number of neighborhood group houses must be affected by this housing crisis. A program of new cottage communities for the chronically mentally ill on the sparsely populated grounds of the St. Elizabeths' campus would be an ideal adjunct to group houses spread throughout the city. It would also obviate against placement in neighborhoods which threaten a lower quality of life.

Barbara Bick
Friends of St. Elizabeths

Looking for stories

I am putting together a book of personal stories by people who are acting alone or in small non-structured groups to affect social change. I would like to hear from anyone who is personally taking an active stand in the areas of nuclear weapons, hunger, environmental issues (eco-saboteurs especially), women, minority, gay and worker's rights. Stories are welcome on other social issues as well, and can also describe the efforts of someone other than yourself whose story you feel should be told.

The main thesis of the book is that confrontational politics on a small scale is the path to real social change, that individual acts of courage are the proper and necessary response to a political system which is no longer representative of people's needs. My feeling is that thousands of these acts of courage are occurring every day.

I encourage anyone who is personally involved in a struggle for social change to write and tell me about your experiences.

Donald Currie
4006 25th Street
San Francisco, CA 94114

Christian Harvard

I am a student at Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia.

Since Liberty's inception 14 years ago, Chancellor Jerry Falwell, alone, has raised much of the support necessary to keep the level of tuition low enough so that everyone has the opportunity to attend our school.

I want to join Dr. Falwell in The Liberty Walk-a-Thon. The Liberty Walk-a-Thon has been scheduled to help Dr. Falwell raise this vital support. As a student here, I want to show my appreciation for the fact that our tuition is affordable, and I want to help ensure that it stays that way in the years to come.

Liberty University is America's fastest-growing university. It is fully accredited and offers over 75 majors. Every faculty member is a born-again

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

believer and teaches his courses from the biblical point of view. The goal of Liberty is to train a new generation of young people who will graduate with two missions in life: (1) to turn out nation back to God, and (2) to evangelize the world in our generation.

I need your help in The Liberty Walk-a-Thon, and I am asking that you sponsor me on a per mile basis. The Walk-a-Thon will extend the 11 miles around the campus of Liberty University.

Thank you for helping me in this effort. Liberty University is well on its way to becoming the "Harvard" of Bible-believing Christians. Your support for Liberty and for me is deeply appreciated.

Keith Clark
Lynchburg, Va.

Imposter

I was astonished to read in the November issue of the Progressive Review an article which had its ravening eye on a villainous Ronald Reagan.

There must have been some mistake because the author of the article was, I swear it to be true, listed as Sam Smith, the gentle editor of the Review.

I know it couldn't have been Sam Smith, whom I have known for twenty years as one of the mildest people in the District of Columbia, if not in the entire world.

I have seen Sam Smith in his shirt-sleeves with his pants hoisted up with a pair of bright-red suspenders leading a merry band of musicians on a summer day. How could so sweet a man say the things he is reported to have gotten out of his typewriter about President Reagan who, at this very moment at which I write, is meeting with his cabinet preparatory to going to Geneva to eye-ball a great but charming villain from the Soviet Union.

Mikail Gorbachev may have charmed British Prime Minister Thatcher and Time Magazine's editors but he is head of a ruthless power that shot down the Korean airliner killing 200 people, and which now is killing peasants in Afghanistan and gassing them.

Now I ask the kind-hearted readers of the Review could it possibly have been not Sam Smith but an impostor who wrote this about not Mikail Gorbachev but about President Reagan:

> Ronald Reagan is, in fact, the last sort of person you'd want helping you on the range: a foolhardy egocentric know-it-all makes a dangerous partner when work is more difficult than glamorous and where skill outranks showmanship. The sort of mindless bravado which is a hallmark of the man was more typical of some of the famed outlaws than of the ordinary cowherder.

Later, the clearly bogus Sam Smith compares Ronald Reagan with "your typical urban mugger. This, in political terms, [is] what Reagan is really about: mugging."

What is the author trying to do, in writing this kind of stuff in a column which at no time says one unkind word about the Soviet Union and its leader Mikail Gorbachev?

Now the Sam Smith I know feels deeply about people; he would not have dismissed Leon Klinghoffer and his tragic death at the hands of his killers in the contemptuous phrase, "the safe release of all but one of the American captives."

I question, as I am sure the real Sam Smith would have done, this view of Leon Klinghoffer, who doesn't even get his name mentioned in this article.

My guess is that not a single one of the Americans, not one of any of the captives on this hijacked Italian boat, or the Egyptian and Italian governments, hold the view of Ronald Reagan that this disgraceful column does.

A friend who read this column came up with one answer as to who the real author is. He suggested that the real Sam Smith may be on that Italian liner still, and the author of the outrageous column is actually one of the hijackers.

This is an interesting explanation, and it clearly makes more sense than the diatribe in the November column.

The sweet, lovable Sam Smith I know would not have used the column to compare Ronald Reagan with "famed outlaws" of the early American West, muggers on today's city streets, an abnormal politician, the hijackers who killed Leon Klinghoffer, and John Hinckley, a coward but "not genuinely crazy."

Where is the real Sam Smith?

George Frain
Adams Morgan, DC

Over here in the phone booth, George, getting mild-mannered again —s.s.

The Samaritans are seeking volunteers to operate suicide prevention phone lines and to perform other duties at their area office.

An international volunteer suicide prevention organization, the Samaritans offer help to those in immediate danger of taking their lives. They also offer assistance to those who are in crisis or despair, even if suicide seems unlikely. Info: 546-1544

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

JUSTICE

PG police brutality

Since 1980 there have been 140 brutality complaints against the Prince Georges County police department. Only 4 of these have been accepted by the department's internal affairs unit and acted upon, three this year. Meanwhile, the number of complaints is up to 47 through mid-October, 11 more than in the previous high year of 1983, and prodded by citizen complaints and the county NAACP, the department has announced that henceforth officers who have complaints filed against them will have to talk with one of the department's psychologists. Also, new officers will not be assigned to high crime areas such as Seat Pleasant, Oxon Hill and Hyattsville. Department statistics show that half of the complaints filed this year were against officers with three or fewer years on the force.

•

Court-ordered guidelines on strip searches of female prisons in DC will be extended indefinitely, because, says Judge Aubrey Robinson Jr., the city has shown "an obvious reluctance to comply" with parts of his previous order. The city, for example, tried to claim that the guidelines were only for the DC Jail (where women are no longer being held) and did not apply to the central cellblock of police headquarters where they are).

ECOLOGY

Saving the Chesapeake's shoreline

The Maryland Critical Areas Commission has proposed new standards for a thousand-foot strip along the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. The plan, which will go to the General Assembly in January, includes these key elements:

- Creates a half-million acre critical area zone.
- Restricts development in agricultural and forested areas to one house per 20 acres.
- Increases run-off controls.
- Establishes a 100-foot buffer zone along tidal waters in certain zones.
- Establishes two development zones with restrictions for each.

The General Assembly can not alter the plan when it votes on it. Local governments can decide on which land in their communities falls under each zone but the plans must be approved by the commission.

As Victoria Churchville put it nicely in the Washington Post:

"Wetlands are to river and bay systems what kidneys are to the human body — traps and filters for pollutants. Like a natural sponge, wetlands also provide flood control — absorbing excess water during times of torrential rains and slowly releasing water in droughts. Finally, wetlands are crucial spawning and feeding grounds for wildlife from fish to waterfowl and nurseries for the underwater grasses that feed them."

Maryland waste violations

A study by the Council on Economic Priorities has found that Maryland has the highest number of waste violations of any state, although Maryland also has the best record of taking action against violators. Maryland inspected facilities on the average of more than ten times during fiscal 1984. The national average is about two inspections a year.

The man who created Rambo, author David Morell, says the hero has gotten a bad rap since appearing in his novel, "First Blood." The book version, he says, was *anti*-war: Rambo was a hippie who died at the end. But that's not all he's mad about. Morrell says the first film's producer cheated him out of some profits, and he's suing for $1.6 million.

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

TRANSIT

No-fault debacle

Without even waiting to hear from a commission studying the effects of no-fault insurance, the city council last month caved in to the trial lawyers lobby and voted to gut the no-fault program. The final vote was seven to five, with Nadine Winter and William Spaulding, both former no-fault supporters, switched sides to give a winning margin to the let-em-sue lobby. At one point, Winter said, "Black people want to be able to do two things. They like to believe they can win the lottery or make a lot of money suing someone." As Loose Lips, in the City Paper, commented, "Earl Butz, where are you?"

Carol Schwartz, had joined the majority on the first vote, but backed off after an insurance company letter campaign targeted at the city's Republican voters.

Bikes: unloved and uncounted

Peter Harnick points out that the recent COG survey on commuter patterns omitted consideration of bike commuting. "Since transportation planners don't measure bike usage or demand, they blithely justify doing nothing for cyclists on the grounds that no one knows how many people are affected," he says. In one of the few traffic counts made, Arlington County found that 100 cyclists an hour were using the I-66 bike path during rush hour and a survey by the Washington

DC Report Card

Here's our scorecard on the city council and the mayor. Generally we give two points plus or minus for a vote or mayoral action and one point for a public position taken without doing anything, or for a bill introduced. On especially important bills we give or take four points. Listed are the 1985 grades plus the cumulative grades since we began our scorecard in 1983. A grade of C or a score of 0 means the politician did right about half the time. Here are the latest additions:

- Six members of the council supported the rent control referendum. The rest (and the mayor) opposed it. Supporters Clarke, Mason Rolark, Shackleton, Smith and Wilson each get four points; the rest lose four.

- The council approved a measure making no-fault insurance voluntary which has the effect of gutting no-fault. Clarke, Crawford, Kane, Mason, Shackleton get four points; the rest lose them, except for Schwartz who gets nothing because she first voted against no-fault and then abstained on second reading.

- The council and the mayor each get two points for a bill that would establish business incubators on city-owned property. Under the plan the mayor could set up a system under which new businesses could use city-owned property at low cost until they got on their feet. Businesses would have to agree to give priority to DC residents for employment and to stay in the city for ten years after leaving the incubator. If put into practice, this could be a very important step in aiding small businesses.

- The mayor gets two points for increasing the AIDS budget to $889,000, five times what was originally in the budget.

	1985 SCORE	1985 GRADE	CUMUL GRADE
CLARKE	21	A	C
MASON	20	A	A
WILSON	13	A	B
ROLARK	12	B	C
SHACKLETON	12	B	C
SMITH	9	C	C
BARRY	-6	D	F
WINTER	-6	D	D
JARVIS	-8	D	D
SCHWARTZ	-9	D	D
CRAWFORD	-10	D	F
KANE	-10	D	C
RAY	-13	F	F
SPAULDING	-16	F	F

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

Area Bicyclist Association found 1200 bikers a day passing the the intersection of 18th St and Columbia Rd. NW.

•

Metro, reacting to a rebellion in suburban communities, to its inefficent, expensive and non-responsive bus system, is considering changes to the system, based in part on suggestions made more than a decade ago in a consultant study by London Transport but blithely ignored by the subway-centered agency. Proposals include changes in routes and schedules and using smaller buses, taxis and vans to cut costs in areas with few riders.

•

I-66 hitting capacity

COG reports that the number of cars using I-66 doubled between 1983 and 1985 and that between 7 and 730 am and 930 and 10 am the road was carrying more cars than the theoretical capacity of the highway.

•

Metro a fiscal time bomb

Ralph Stanley, US Urban Mass Transportation Administrator, calls Metro "a fiscal time bomb. By 1990 there will be a $501 million annual operating deficit and the federal government simply will not pay more than 8 percent." The $501 million figure comes from a 1981 study by Peat, Marwick & Mitchell, accountants. Stanley also says that Metro is a "gold-plated" system so accustomed to the flow of federal money it will have rough going when federal funds dry up. The system, one of the country's largest public work projects, was estimated to cost less than $2 billion in 1970. The planners were only off by 500% — and it's not finished yet.

HOUSING

The shelter squabble

UDC's Center for Applied Research and Urban Policy last month managed to put the dispute between the Community for Creative Non-Violence and the federal government over shelters for the homeless in some perspective. As this is written, some three hundred homeless men are staying at the new Anacostia shelter, some 500 at the CCNV shelter and some 80 to 100 women at another shelter. There is space for about 2300 people at all the 30 publicly and privately run DC shelters.

But the UDC study, on a count based on observation and extrapolation, estimates that there are about 6500 homeless people in the city. Thus the suggestion that somehow the CCNV shelter, especially after the opening of the Anacostia facility, was no longer needed would appear to be absurd. In fact, says UDC associate professor Francis Robinson (who wrote the study) "In the unlikely even that every one of the estimated 4606 persons (homeless as of last July) sought shelter, 55 additional facilities would be needed.

And in a court hearing, CCNV argued that, "Even if one were to accept the untested contention that the Anacostia facility can handle 600 men, this is not nearly enough to accomodate the 759 men who used the two shelters last night."

Last years, the voters of DC overwhelmingly approved an initiative calling on the city to provide shelter to all who want it. The Barry administration's response was to seek, successfully, a court ruling striking down the initiatve, which is now being appealed.

•

H. R. Crawford has introduced legislation to reduce water and sewer rates for senior citizens.

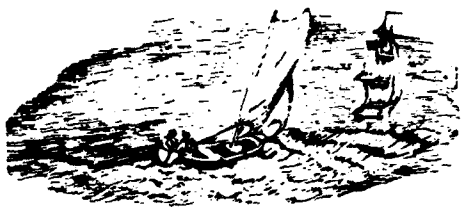
EDUCATION

The news reports of an FBI study that found the University of Maryland had the greatest amount of campus crime in the nation exaggerated the situation more than a little. In fact, on a crimes per 1000 persons basis, Maryland ranked sixth among campuses with the most crime. Further, the survey cover only 300 schools that were not part of communities where campus crime was included in the general crime report — such as Howard or Columbia universities.

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

DECEMBER 1985

The Progressive Review



TOPICS

Those Democrats who pride themselves on their proximity to dead political center are riding high these days, with no small help from journals of the extremist middle. The Democratic Leadership Council, a collection of Democratic omphalopychites sometimes referred to as the "white boy's club," are essentially preaching a do-nothing dogma. They have taken considerable heart from the recent elections in Virginia, where a slate of moderately conservative Democrats beat a slate of rabidly conservative Republicans. Virginia, however, is not a typical state and to suggest that the compromises necessary there to win public office apply to the rest of the country is a bit far-fetched. This, after all, is the state in which the black candidate for lieutenant governor called his opponent a racist for suggesting that he was a liberal.

In fact, there is some question as to whether the Democratic Leadership Council is in the center at all. One of its leaders, current Virginia governor Charles Robb, has said he would vote for aid for the Contras, supports the

(Please turn to next page)

Weather Report

POLITICS

Democratic PAC people

Last year, for the first time, incumbent House Democrats received more money from PACS than they did from individuals, and the dependence on PACS was higher for the Democrats than for the Republicans. Meanwhile, individual contributions under $100 dropped in House races from 46% of all support in 1974 to 19% in 1984. The Democratic Study Group, which produced the study, called for a tax credit for political contributions of up to $100 per year.

•

Democratic mayors re-elected

The Reagan right remains a largely extra-urban phenomenon. In last month's elections Democrats were elected or re-elected as mayor in New York, Houston, Detroit, Minneapolis, Salt Lake, Pittsburgh, Seattle, and Charlotte (which elected its first black mayor). Only major city the Republican won was Cleveland where incumbent George Voinovich was re-elected to a third term over Gary Kucinich.

•

Progressives fare well with referenda

Progressives fared well on referendum and initiative issues last month, beating back three New England town resolutions calling for a reversal of the Supreme Court's legalization of abortion, defeating an attempt to repeal Oak Park Ill.'s ban on handguns, and approving a Maine proposal that gives residents the right to approve any disposal

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

plans for low-level nuclear waste. Boulder, Colo. and Oberlin, O., joined the growing number of nuclear free zones. Voters in San Diego elected to set aside 15,000 acres in the northern section of the city as a rural preservation area until more central portions of the city have been developed. In San Francisco, however, voters rejected a proposal to ban building permits for high-rises of more than 50,000 square feet.

•

Goode gets a message

Mayor Wilson Goode of Philadelphia, got the first clear message of how the MOVE affair might be affecting the politics of the city when, last month, his candidate for district attorney, William W. Williams Jr., was defeated by Republican Ronald Castille in a near landslide. Said Williams's campaign manager: "There are a lot of angry voters out there — angry and discontented. A lot of people was watching the MOVE hearings and saying, 'Enough is enough; let's try the other guy.' A lot of people sent a message to Goode."

Anti-gays beaten in Houston

Kathy Whitmire won re-election as mayor of Houston despite right-wing attacks on her support of equal job rights for homosexuals. Whitmire got 58.9% of the vote. One political scientist who followed voter attitudes during the campaign said that "The preference of voters on the gay issue never was correlated to vote choice." Whitmire's opponent, Louis Welch, was heard on television (unaware that a mike was on) saying at one point that the way to halt the spread of AIDS was to "shoot the queers.". . . .Meanwhile, two anti-homosexual candidates for the council, known as the "Straight Slate," forced two incumbents into a run-off election.

Kennedy veers to the right

Ted Kennedy has disturbed some progressives by two recent votes on budget issues. Kennedy supported a line-item veto and the bizarre deficit-cutting plan approved by the Senate. Both acts would dramatically increase presidential power. Gary Hart, on the other hand, strongly opposed the deficit plan and Walter Mondale says he would have if he had been in the Senate.

Published approximately ten times a year. Single copies by mail are $1 each. Ten issue subscription: $6. Twenty issue subscription: $10. The Review uses the services of Pacific News Service, Rip'n'Read News Service, College Press Service and HerSay News Service. The Review welcomes articles and letters but unfortunately cannot pay for them. All submissions should be made with a stamped self-addressed envelope if you wish the material returned. Deadline for editorial and advertising matter is the 15th of the month.

EDITOR: Sam Smith

THE PROGRESSIVE REVIEW
1739 Conn. Ave NW
DC 20009
202-232-5544

TOPICS. . .

intervention in Granada and would consider cuts in social security. This is not my definition of a centrist.

Further, fair analysis should include an explanation of why liberal congressman Bob Edgar manages to win in a heavily Republican district in Pennsylvania or why Gary Studds gets re-elected as a liberal and an open homosexual in a Massachusetts district that simultaneously votes for Ronald Reagan. These divergences from the popular wisdom on how the Democrats should revive themselves deserve considerably more attention than they have received so far.

The omphalic Democrats, and their media fans, should also consider the fact that Ronald Reagan did not rise to power through the the sort of centrist navel-gazing that they espouse but through presenting a radical program of change. In addition, Reagan wrapped his program in theatre, albeit bad theatre, that captured people's imagination. The Democratic extremist middle eschews change and is hopelessly boring, so on two counts seems an unworthy challenger to Reaganism.

This crowd reminds me of the foodoo bird, a mythical creature of my childhood, which was reported to fly around in concentric circles of an ever-lessening radius until it finally disappeared into its own rectum. This characteristic strikes me as neither representative of the Democratic Party nor of leadership. — **Sam Smith**

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

ENVIRONMENT

Recycled university
The University of Minnesota is expected to become the first campus with a comprehensive recycling program. If approved by the regent's the plan, first proposed by the Minnesota PIRG, could result in as much as a half of the university's 25 tons of solid waste being recycled. At present, only about four percent is being recycled.

•

Decline of nuclear power
The Northern Sun reports that there has not been a new order for a nuclear power plant since 1978. About 125 plants on order or under construction have been cancelled. Writes Bill Moyer: "If the trends of the past ten years continue, the nuclear industry will die out over the next 25 years. The 82 currently operating nuclear plants will play little part in the future of nuclear energy because they will be closing down during this period, having reached their 25-year designed maximum life expectancy. " Keep this in mind when you hear people talking about progressives not having accomplished anything in the past decade.

•

Subsidizing conventional energy
Subsidies going to nuclear, oil and other conventional energy sources totaled $42 billion last year, while only $1.7 billion went to support renewable energy, says the Center for Renewable Resources. Copies of the report are available from CRR, #638, 1001 Connecticut Ave NW, DC 20036

•

Environmental agenda
The chief executive officers of ten environmental and conservation organization have proposed an action agenda for the environmental movement to pursue now and into the next century. Copies of "An Environmental Agenda for the Future" are available for $6.95 postpaid from the Island Press, Suite 300-T, 1718 Conn. Ave NW DC 20009.

PEACE

Scientists bucking Star Wars
The New York Times reported last month that more than 1600 scientists and nearly 1200 grad students have pledged to reject Star Wars research funds. Among the signers are more than half of the physicists at Cornell, CIT, Columbia, Harvard, University of Illinois, MIT, Princeton, Stanford and Yale. Meanwhile, the president of the University of North Dakota has asked a faculty committee to consider the ethical implications of conducting defense-related research on campus. President Thomas Clifford had earlier sought a $100,000 grant for Star Wars research. But he then told the Grand Forks Herald: "Sometimes the overriding concern for money, the competition for resources, might dull your ethical sense. We don't want to let temporary needs for funding dull our sense for ethics."

•

AFL-CIO waffles on Nicargua
The AFL-CIO has criticized the administration's use of military force in Nicaragua but backed off of opposing military aid to the Contras as had been proposed by a committee of labor officials who had visited Central America and a number of large unions including the UAW and AFSCME.

ECONOMICS

Capping interest rates
Credit card interest rates would be capped under legislation now being considered in the House. The measure sponsored by Rep. Charles Schumer (D-NY) would limit credit charges to five or six points above a federal standard. This would mean, under current rates, a maximum charge of 13.5%. Credit card charges are currently averaging 18.5%. Only three states have interest rate ceilings below 18%.

•

Skyrocketing car costs are changing the car-loan business. Ten years ago, the average loan lasted three years. Now the average is over four years, with some lenders offering up to seven years. The long-term financing is the only way many borrowers can keep up with the payments.

It's been tried
Supporters of Star Wars should be aware that they are not the first to come up with a defensive weapon whose creator thought would end all war. According to a new biography by Cynthia Owen Philip, Robert Fulton in the 1790s believed he had a system "that would provide a cheap, efficient, and sure means of eradicating not only maritime conflicts but all war." His invention: the submarine.

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

About sea changes

Now that Ronald Reagan has started cavorting with the godless, atheistic Soviets, we are beginning to see one of the periodic revivals of that great journalistic cliche, the sea change. Although its use has been spurred by the summit, it finds its way into all manner of articles. For example, the Washington Post's Michael Barone wrote of another subject recently, "This is a sea change in American politics, a change with more implications for the way Americans work and live . . . ."

Being a former Coast Guard person, I some time ago investigated the meaning of this phrase since I could not recall having ever heard it used by anyone who actually made a living on or by the sea. In fact, the phrase means something quite different than its journalistic use would suggest, and it comes not from the maritime lexicon but from our old friend, Will Shakespeare, who, in The Tempest, writes:

Full fathom five thy father lies;
Of his bones are coral made;
Those are pearls that were his eyes:
Nothing of him that doth fade
But doth suffer a sea-change
Into something rich and strange

Thus, suggesting that Ronald Reagan is in the midst of a sea change is not exactly a flattering remark and Barone and other fans of the phrase might want to find a cliche with less terminal implications. —s.s.

MEDIA

America and the evangelists

A.C.Neilsen Co, reports that a national survey has found that forty percent of American households with TV set watch television evangelists at least once a month, a figure comparable to prime time viewing. Jeffery Hadden of the University of Virginia and president of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, says the study indicates that the evangelists rather than Ronald Reagan are behind the current swing to the social right. Top show was Pat Robertson's "700 Club", which reaches 4.4 million people or 19 percent of American viewers. Robertson has said he is consulting God on the question of whether he should run for president.

●

A cover story in Mother Jones Magazine charges that in the months prior to the 1984 elections, ABC news developed—but never aired—hard-hitting exposes on three powerful republicans: U.S. Information Agency Director Charles Wick, Nevada Senator Paul Laxalt, and then Secretary of Labor Raymond Donovan.

The failure to air these segments is particularly telling, says author Mark Dowie, when compared with ABC's pursuit of Democratic vice presidential candidate Geraldine Ferraro. As the news of her husband's financial dealings surfaced, ABC formed a special investigative team, which one ABC reporter described to Mother Jones as a "hit squad" and other termed a "swat team."

While it's unlikely that ABC set out to ensure the reelection of President Reagan, says Dowie, "in 1984, ABC Executives had a more than usual interest in who was elected president." ABC was for sale at the time, and deregulation proposed by Reagan-appointed FCC Chairman Mark Fowler promised to make it a much more valuable property by expanding the number of affiliates a network may own. Following the election, Fowler proposed that the limit on network-owned affiliates be raised from 7 to 12. Soon after, ABC was sold for $3.5 billion. A clause in the contract stated that the deal was off if the proposed FCC recommendation was not adopted.

JUSTICE

Rebuffs to the gun lobby

Major developments in the gun control fight: A Maryland court ruled gun makers and sellers liable for damages caused by Saturday Night Specials (see Weather Report) and the Fraternal Order of Police has shifted its position and is opposing attempts to gut the Federal Gun Control Act. One factor was the National Rifle Association's refusal to support FOP legislation banning armor-piercing bullets.

Cap on legal fees okayed

The Supreme Court has, without comment, dismissed a challenge to a California law that limits the fees lawyers can get in medical malpractice case.

Just a few mistakes

THE ACLU has released a study which claims that nearly 350 people have been wrongfully convicted of capital offenses since 1900. Twenty-five were executed, seven died in prison and 31 were incarcerated for more than 15 years. During the period there have been 7000 executions in the United States.

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

•

The Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reports for 1984 demonstrate, as usual, that homicide rates in states with the death penalty are substantially higher than those in states without the death penalty.

Twelve states do not have the death penalty. Of those, only two are in the top 10 most murderous states, Alaska with a rate of 11.6 homicides per 100,000 population and Michigan with 9.7.

The others of the top 10 most murderous states are:

TX	13.1	CA	10.6
LA	12.9	NY	10.1
FL	11.5	MS	9.7
NV	10.8	AL	9.4

Six of the states without a death penalty are in the bottom 10.

The 38 death penalty states have an average of 6.57 homicides per 100,000 population. The 12 without the death penalty have an average of 4.18. Thus, murders in the death penalty states occur 36% more frequently than in those without it.

In comparison to European countries, the U.S. is extremely violent.

The average homicide rate in 1984 was 5.99 in the U.S.

In 1977 (the last year for which complete statistics were available in Europe) the rates were:

Austria	1.3
Denmark	.7
Finland	2.8
France	1.0
West Germany	1.2
Greece	.6
Ireland	.9
Netherlands	.9
Norway	.8
Spain	.7
Sweden	1.2
Switzerland	.9
England	.9
Scotland	1.9

Of these only Greece has the death penalty, which has not been invoked in years.

And not so incidentally, European countries have far tougher laws governing the sale of guns than does the U.S. – *Come Unity*

CIVIL LIBERTIES

No to censorship

The chancellor of the University of Wisconsin has ordered student unions to resume selling adult magazines that had been banned earlier by the college council. The council had banned the magazines, including Playboy and Playgirl, are pornographic and demeaning to women. An assistant to the chancellor commented, "These adult magazines have not been declared pornographic by any court in this community and they are on sale at other places in the community. By taking the magazines off the shelves, you've got some who've cried it's a violation of their rights."

•

Colleges get tough on demonstrators

In a turn from early tolerance of anti-apartheid protests, increasing reports are coming of colleges and universities taking punitive action against protestors. Harvard, for example, has reinstated a committee, disbanded in 1975, to punish campus protestors. The committee quickly placed ten students on "suspended requirements to withdraw" from school. The Harvard Law School says it will tell state bar associations of another student's civil disobedience during a campus demonstration against South Africa.

HEALTH

The AIDS drug connection

Although the popular impression is that AIDS is primarily a gay disease, statistics from major cities suggest that not enough attention is being given the drug connection. Writing in the Village Voice (Oct. 29), Wayne Barrett reports that more than half the New York City AIDS victims are black and hispanic and most got the disease because they shot drugs. Barrett points out that heterosexual drug users can spread the disease faster through the general population than can gays, but that governmental efforts have centered on homosexuals. Meanwhile, law enforcement officials in NYC oppose such moves as permitting the open sale of cheap one-shot needles and syringes, saying it would encourage drug use.

•

An expert in infectious diseases says that black people in the US are suffering in disproportionately high numbers from acquired immune deficiency syndrome – and that the disproportion is even higher among newborns.

Doctor Wayne Greaves, chief of infectious disease at Howard University, told The New York Times that black people are thought to account for about 25 percent of the 14-thousand cases of AIDS now reported in the United States. However, blacks make up only 12.5 percent of the total US population.

Greaves also noted that 56 percent of the childhood AIDS cases in the US involve black children. Such

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

cases typically involve either transmission by an infected mother to the fetus or by blood transfusions during the newborn's early life.

Greaves says he doubts very much that genetic factors account for the higher incidence of AIDS among blacks—instead, he theorizes that the rate is linked to blacks' relatively inferior health and inferior health care available to them.

•

HOUSING

Rent control before Supreme Court
The Supreme Court will decide a case this term on whether local communities can institute rent control or if this is a form of illegal price-fixing in violation of the Sherman act. At issue is whether the communities need the approval of the state legislature.

CIVIL RIGHTS

Affirmative action coalition formed
A coalition has been formed to fight for retention of affirmative action programs. The National Committee to Defend and Extend Affirmative Action is chaired by DC mayor Marion Barry and is headquartered at 30 W. Washington, Suite 703, Chicago, Ill 60602 (312-726-1235)

•

The White House has backed down from making a proposal to eliminate government affirmative-action requirements, under pressure from Congress, business groups and civil-rights leaders. Attorney General Edwin Meese had been pushing to abolish an executive order signed by President Johnson in 1965, establishing numerical hiring goals and timetables. Secretary of Labor William Brock apparently fought Meese's suggestion to a standstill, suggesting minimal changes in the law. Both Meese's and Brock's options have gone to the President, along with a third approach: sign a new law that eliminates quotas, but keeps hiring goals.

THE SEXES

Stanford Law and gays
Stanford University's law school faculty has decided that employers who discriminate against gay job applicants will no longer be allowed to hold interviews at the law school.

•

Women and pornography
One of the curiosities about the feminist anti-porn movement is its alliance with the right-wing. Writing in Overthrow, Grace Nichols points out that "these feminists have consistently failed to denounce the homophobia and anti-feminism of their right wing (allies). Recent versions of anti-porn legislation have targeted lesbian and gay male sexuality." And in a brief asking that Indianapolis's anti-porn ordinance be overthrown, 75 feminists including Adrienne Rich, Kate Millet, Betty Friedan, Rita Mae Brown and Alzi Kates Shulman, wrote that "The ordinance perpetuates a stereotype of women as helpless victims, incapable of consent and in need of protection; it reinforces the view that good women do not seek and enjoy sex; it makes socially invisible those women who find some of the materials covered by the ordinance to be erotic, liberating or educational; and its notion of hair-trigger male susceptibility to violent imagery provides and excuse to avoid directly blaming the men who commit violent acts.

•

Court to hear gay case
The Supreme Court has greed to decided whether the Constitution protects consenting adults from prosecution for private homosexual acts.

•

California's no-fault divorce law was passed in 1970, aimed at relieving the bitterness in divorce cases. However, Stanford University sociologist Lenore Weitzman has found that while the bitterness has declined, so has the economic protection for children and the women who support them. Divorced women and their children drop 73 percent in their standard of living, while men's rises by 42 percent. And the group most in need of support, mothers with preschool children, gets spousal support less than any other group.

An Inyokern, California chemist says he can make a cheap, durable substitute for cement using beer and old cigaret butts. Doctor Hana Claus of China Lake Ceramics claims his "beerstone" is just as strong as concrete and weighs only a fifth as much. With it, he says, you could build a house in just two days at half the cost of regular materials, with no need for fire insurance or insulation.

•

Legislators in Kansas may be regretting their decision to bar liquor-license holders from selling cut-price drinks during "Happy Hours." The "Happy Hours" have been replaced with "Happy Days," with cheap drinks available from opening to closing. The

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

THE OVERSEAS OFFICE

David Beers

Factory jobs aren't the only kind moving overseas. The trend has hit white and pink collar workers as well.

Dozens of U.S. companies are boxing up their labor-intensive paperwork and sending it to "offshore offices" in the West Indies, Southeast Asia, Ireland, India, even China.

In those places, the data is keyed into computers by operators paid a fraction of U.S. wages and then is shipped back in the form of magnetic tape or disks.

Many such operations are clerical work subcontractors. Saztec Corp., for example, has its headquarters in Rolling Hills, California, and a work force of 750 in the Philippines and Singapore. They earn between $2 and $3 an hour, plus bonuses, keystroking information for customers that include IBM, telephone companies and large law firms.

"We are not a sweat shop," says Saztec President Tom Reed, but he claims some offshore offices are. He says some competitors "drive their employees hard," and force them to work in poor environments for below subsistence pay and no benefits. His company pays a high wage by comparison, says Reed, and employees share in profits.

Reed says that because turnover among his overseas operators is "less than one percent per year as opposed to 20 to 50 percent in the States," their productivity is high.

"They are so detail oriented over there it's incredible," echoes Saztec Director of Technical Services Eileen McNulty, who claims overseas keypunchers are not only cheaper but usually faster and more accurate than Americans.

Within the last decade an estimated 40 companies in the United States, Japan and England have sent their office work overseas. Banking, insurance, legal and publishing firms, the producers of massive amounts of paperwork, profit the most from the practice.

A key drawback has always been the cost and time lag built into sending information back and forth by airfreight.

However, American Airlines, one of several companies to set up offshore offices in the Caribbean, is now using satellite telecommunications to speed up the process considerably.

Two years ago the airline phased out 200 keypunching jobs at its Tulsa, Oklahoma, accounting center and created a wholly-owned subsidiary, Caribbean Data Services, in Barbados.

Today the airline flies all its used tickets, nearly a million a week, to the tiny island nation. Barbadians, paid a third of what their American counterparts earn, sort the tickets and key pertinent information into video display terminals. That data is funneled into larger computers, then beamed via satellite to Tulsa.

"With technology where it is now we had no reason to keep this operation in America," said CDS General Manager Samuel Fuchs when the operation began.

"You can't fight technology, but you can use jujitsu on it—you can make it go the way you want it to go," says Ed Wilson, president of Tulsa Local 514 of the Transport Workers Union, whose membership includes many American Airlines employees.

Wilson says he tried to organize some of American's non-union keypunchers in 1982, when the Barbados move was first rumored. The attempt failed, but Wilson takes satisfaction in the fact that no one was laid off in the transfer.

Even with satellite transmission costs, American saves about $4 million a year with its remote factory. Its payroll has grown to over 300 workers and CDS now subcontracts work outside of American Airlines.

The Barbados government has helped sweeten the pot by offering duty-free importation of equipment and raw materials and data, cheap office space, full repatriation of profits, and a corporate tax of 2.5 percent.

What does the island receive in return? "Jobs," says a Barbados government official, "and a population with more familiarity with computers."

Other governments around the globe are beginning to aggressively court American office work—and some of the biggest competition may come from the People's Republic of China.

Two hundred keypunchers are employed there by Pacific Data Services, owned by the Dallas-based conglomerate Trammel Crow Co. Through an agreement with the university in Beijing, Pacific Data Services teaches Chinese students English and typing,

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

then hires them to keypunch everything from legal documents to catalog mailing lists.

The workers are paid $7 a week and have an accuracy rate of 99.95 percent, according to company president Donna Walz who says the low labor rates can cut a customer's entry costs by half.

Those economics are adding to doubts about whether a growing "information economy" will create enough new jobs for the American work force.

Mead Data Central, for example, became a leader in the information retrieval industry by creating "Nexis" and "Lexis"—computerized libraries of legal and news material that professionals can tap into with their own computers. To keep these "databases" current, the $100 million division of Mead Corp. must consistently convert mountains of printed documents to magnetic tape. The Ohio-based company now farms out much of that work to offshore offices.

American labor unions worry that offshore offices erode the bargaining power of clerical workers. But experts like Lenny Siegel, who monitors labor practices in the electronics industry, doubt much can be done to stem the outflow as telecommunications improve and costs go down.

Diana Roose of 9 to 5, a national organization of office workers, says, "From our point of view, offshore offices are only a piece of the whole problem of how technology is introduced into office work without consulting employees."

Argues Ed Wilson, "The new technology worldwide was developed with our dollars, and it should belong to us. If we use this technology overseas, it should be licensed and part of that money should go directly into our treasury to repay the expense of our research and development."

Other labor leaders have proposed corporate taxes to pay for retraining of laid-off clerical workers, or protectionist duties on the import and export of electronic data.

At present, though, there are no such bills pending in Congress, and one labor subcommittee researcher, who asked not to be identified, reports, "Not only is Washington unconcerned about 'runaway offices,' right now no one here seems to care about any overall trends in clerical work."

That worries Roose, who says, "We don't want to see office workers on the employment line ten years hence because no one saw that business' move overseas could affect clerical employees the way it has affected workers in the steel and auto industry."

Copyright PNS

•

US News & World Report says that one quarter of all 17 year-olds think it's illegal to start a new political party.

THE REAGAN FILE

When Reagan told four Soviet journalists that "there will be deployment (of the Star Wars system) only if there is elimination of the nuclear weapons," it looked as though there had been a big change in American foreign policy. T'weren't so, said White House flack Larry Speakes, just a case of "presidential imprecision" that the "media had seized on" unfairly. It now, apparently, is unfair to quote the president before his remarks have been sanitized by his handlers. Just like in the movies, all the bad scenes can end up on the cutting room floor. . . .Another case of imprecision came a few days later when the president, in giving a toast, misaddressed Princess Di not once but twice. And much of official Washington still thinks it's cute.

•

Shortly before Reagan went to Geneva, right-wing Wall Street Journal editorial write Gregory Fossedal met with Reagan and gave him a Darth Vader doll, saying, "I've had made a special model of Mikhail Gorbachev for you to study. This is the man you'll be up against." According to Fossedal, Reagan replied, "You know, they really are an evil empire."

•

Reagan said last month that his administration favored covert aid to rebels fighting against the government of Angola. Earlier, the Washington Post and the New York Times reported that Reagan had approved plans for covert operations against Libya. Said one administration official of the leak: "We went ahead with the world's most open covert operation against Nicaragua. I would not assume that the opponents can kill it with leaks."

•

In case you misplaced the exact wording, what Donald Regan said of women was that they are "not going to understand throw weights, or what is happening in Afghanistan or what is happening in human rights. . . .Some women will but most women — believe me, your

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

MID-EAST: Elements of peace

JERRY SEGAL

(Excerpts from remarks made at a forum on US policy in the Middle East by Jerry Segal of the Washington Area Jews for an Israeli-Palestinian Peace)

I'm not going to present some new plan for Middle East peace, but rather call attention to two critical elements that have to be part of any process leading to a solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The two elements are justice and realism. With respect to justice, the main point is that the Palestinians continue to be victims of injustice. Regardless of the circumstances that brought this problem about, it's unjust that people who abandoned their homes under threat and fear not be allowed to return. It's unjust that people not receive compensation for what they lost. It's unjust that a people remain uprooted, living in a stateless diaspora. And it's unjust that a million or more continue to be ruled as noncitizens by a foreign, occupying army. The occupation of the West Bank has now gone on for 18 years. There is a whole generation of Israelis who have grown up not recognizing any other form of existence other than living under an Israeli military government.

As for realism, it seems to me there are two main points to be made. First, the struggle to reject Israel has not served the Palestinian people well. Objectively speaking, over some 40 years things have gotten worse and worse. Palestinians are still living in camps. During this period, Israel evolved from virtually nothing, into an established, powerful state.

There is another piece of realism to consider: Israel today is not a weak, deeply threatened country. Even after its debacle in Lebanon, Israel remains the superpower in the Middle East. This, it seems to me, is not just a truth that should be accepted by Palestinians, but also one which needs to be deeply absorbed by American and even by some Israeli Jews. Israel today is not what it was 40 years ago. The national security problems it faces are of a totally different order.

What realism implies for the Palestinians is something very difficult. I think it's the recognition that they will never get full justice or full satisfaction, and that to continue to aspire to full justice will most likely result in them getting less and less of what they want. That's been the trend in the Middle East and there is no reason for it not to continue.

Equally important, I think there has to be a recognition from the Israelis that failure to accommodate the Palestinian sense of injustice will result in the permanent presence of conflict. Without dealing with the justice issue and without a settlement that provides some significant degree of justice for the Palestinians, the conflict will not go away. Any settlement that exists will not be stable. Moreover, Israelis must recognize that even for a regional superpower, permanent conflict poses high costs and high risks. Some of these are internal, such as the destruction of the spirit, character and morality of Israeli democracy; some of them are external, having to do with the long-term staying power of the Israeli-Egyptian peace, the fundamental feature that has transformed Israel's national security problem. So long as that peace remains sound, Israeli security is by and large manageable in military terms.

The key issue is the Palestinian state, the question of whether or not there will be an independent Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Only a settlement which provides for such a state will be able to fulfill the demand for justice. Only a settlement that results in a Palestinian state will gain enough support from Palestinians and the world as a whole. Only such a settlement will be durable and will not itself be the basis for new charges of betrayal and for a future generation of Palestinian leadership that would struggle to overcome the limitations of a more restricted settlement.

REAGAN FILE. . .

readers for the most part if you took a poll — would rather read the human interest stuff on what happened." The Washington Post referred to this, in an example of journalistic imprecision, as a "gaffe."

•

CHUCK STONE: Return of the Comstockers

Censorship is on the rise in America.

Born-again Comstockers are attacking the temple of the First Amendment like starving termites.

Three news items reveal their success in stifling freedom of expression.

• The president of the Recording Industry of America announced that record companies would soon begin including "warnings" on albums containing potentially "offensive" lyrics. In addition, a senatorial aide announced that future legislation might be necessary—if the record companies did not

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

satisfy the Comstockery whims of six senatorial wives.

• New York state and six Connecticut cities have enacted laws requiring that shopkeepers who sell pornographic literature must cover the "obscene" photographs on the publications' front.

• Accuracy in Academia, a conservative and self-ordained guardian of truth, announced that students on 110 college campuses are monitoring the "inaccuracy" and "liberal bias" of professors in order to weed out professors guilty of trying to exercise free speech in the classroom.

But the six senators' wives succeeded not because their case is just, but because their husbands are senators.

Instead of enacting an *Index Liborum Prohibitorum* that suppressed what the church considered heretical writings in 1559, these 1985 Grand Inquisitors would publish an *Index Lyricorum Prohibitorum* to ban what they judge to be salacious lyrics.

Obviously, these senatorial mothers grew up in a culturally deprived cocoon.

Otherwise, they would be familiar with some magnificently raunchy songs that once made the best-sellers list—Dinah Washington's rendition of the Cole Porter classic, "Love for Sale," Billy Eckstein's "Jelly, Jelly" or the blues-shouting Wynonie Harris' "Keep on Churnin' Til the Butter Comes."

But censorship in 1985 is not limited to middle-aged female Comstockers fretting over songs of unrequited orgasms.

Today's censors are running amok everywhere.

They include abortion foes, blacks, Catholics, Chinese, Jews, the New York Times, left-wing liberals, right-wing conservatives, Reagan administration, newspaper editors, television networks and textbook publishers.

Abortion foes are threatening a month-long boycott of CBS for airing a *Cagney & Lacey* episode about an abortion-clinic bombing.

Blacks in Dallas, angrily protesting Dallas Times Herald columnist Joe Bob Briggs' redneckian satire, "We are the Weird," were able to force the columnist's resignation.

Catholic protesters want to prevent the showing of the motion picture "Hail, Mary."

Chinese protesters want the picture "Year of the Dragon" banned.

Jews lobbied against the tenure of a State University of New York-Stony Brook professor for equating Zionism with racism in a course he taught. The New England regional office of Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith compiled a blacklist of allegedly "anti-Israel, pro-Arab academics."

The New York Times put columnist Sydney Schanberg out to pasture when his column put him at odds with the Times' editorial position on several local controversies. He then resigned.

The Reagan administration has issued 51 executive actions restricting access to government information and limiting press freedom.

Textbook publishers are surreptitiously editing "embarrassing scenes" out of Shakespeare's plays—without informing high school teachers!

In 1985, the censor is not some mysterious suppressor of free speech, operating out of a hidden office.

The Grand Inquisitor of Comstockery is your next-door neighbor.

Philadelphia Daily News

HEALTH: Health-care Exxons

PETER DOWNS

Six years ago, Dr. William Shonick of the UCLA School of Public Health predicted that "we will wake up in a few years with a few Exxons controlling half the hospitals." That prediction is coming true. And to a wide range of health care experts, the growth of health care Exxons is bad news to consumers.

Twenty-eight for-profit hospital chains managed 958 U.S. hospitals in 1984. In 1983, they managed 639 hospitals. The four largest of such chains controlled two-thirds of the hospitals. The 23 chains that reported their profits to the industry journal *Modern Healthcare* in 1984 made $1.7 billion, up 30 percent from 1983.

Public hospitals and indigent patients are important victims of these profit takers in health care. Increasingly, public hospitals have to shoulder the burden of caring for the poor alone. As many local governments already are financially hard-pressed, that can mean lower quality care. The for-profit hospitals tend to refuse treatment to poor patients and instead ship them off to public institutions. Some not-for-profit and religious hospitals have taken to doing the same. That puts the burden of providing free care on public hospitals so that chains can protect profits.

Squeezed between rising health care costs and shrinking budgets, many local governments look to

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

the for-profit hospital chains for salvation. They hope to cut costs by hiring those companies to manage public hospitals. The chains are happy to take the business, collecting hefty management fees but no liabilities. Sometimes they also use the opportunity to scout an area for one of their own hospitals. Thirteen of the for-profit chains now manage 314 hospitals, and public hospitals account for 41 percent of the beds under contract management.

For-profit chains claim they can operate public hospitals more efficiently than can local governments because of their broad experience and the economies of scale they can bring to purchasing hospital supplies.

Government officials in St. Louis used such arguments recently to sell for-profit health care to their citizens. Like hundreds of other local governments, the city and county decided to shut their public hospitals and contract with National Medical Enterprises for hospital care. Their experience illustrates what is happening in hundreds of localities across the U.S. and Canada.

When St. Louis Mayor Vincent Schoemehl ordered city patients moved to the Medical Center, NME had already managed City Hospital for one year. The mayor's office said NME should operate the Medical Center because during that one year at City, the company had realized a net savings for the city of $3.3 million by cutting costs and increasing revenues.

But when the city later made its financial report public, it showed that instead of saving the city money, NME had racked up $4 million in losses. For fiscal year 1986, NME is asking for another $4 million in the operating subsidy it gets from the city.

That mirrors the experience of seven California county hospitals studied by UCLA's Dr. Shonick in 1982. Four of the counties concluded that the savings realized under contract management were not enough to warrant continued paying of high annual management fees, so they did not renew the contracts when they expired. In St. Louis, however, the Board of Aldermen approved the mayor's request to turn over the Medical Center and all public health clinics to NME.

Immediately upon gaining control of the city's public health system, NME fired the system's staff. It offered to rehire some people, but at reduced wages and benefits. The wages for RN's, for example, were cut by about $2 an hour. Everybody lost seniority, as well as accrued sick days and vacation time. The company also refused to rehire those active in AFSCME Local 420, according to the union's attorney.

NME also ended several of the system's community health programs. Among the employees fired but not replaced were midwives, nurse practitioners in family medicine, nutritionists, and social workers. Much of their work involved looking for poor people who needed help. Medicare does not reimburse such services, so for-profit chains try to save on those costs.

Neither does NME encourage the indigent to use the hospital. After NME set a minimum charge of $25 per lead poisoning treatment (which had been free), for instance, the number of treatments given by the city dropped more than 30 percent.

Mayor Schoemehl was able to bulldoze the closing of the public hospital through the Board of Aldermen because the hospital was in terrible shape. St. Louis, like many older cities, had refused to invest money in improving its hospitals for almost two decades.

The public hospital in St. Louis County, on the other hand, was well-maintained and had a reputation for excellence. It also had a reputation for efficiency. During the last five years costs rose 44 percent, compared to an area average of 89 percent. The average patient stay at County in 1984 was 5.4 days; the area average was 8.2. One hospital official says that was because County didn't order unnecessary treatments to bring in more revenue.

Last year the hospital's patient revenues increased. One hospital official confides that County's income from Medicaid increased 25 percent due to that agency's new prospective pricing system.

Medicaid last year began to pay doctors and hospitals a fixed fee according to the patient's diagnosis, regardless of what treatment the hospital delivers. Fees are set by taking an average of the historical charges from all area hospitals. Those hospitals which had been on the high end now get less and those which had been on the low end get more.

Medicaid had paid whatever a hospital charged. So for-profit hospitals inflated charges for such ancillary services as lab tests and medicine. A 1983 study of 280 hospitals published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* found that private hospitals charged 38 percent more for ancillary medical services than did not-for-profits. Another study in 1981 of 106 hospitals found the average patient day charges to be 17 percent higher in private hospitals than in not-for-profits, a difference of $55 per patient day.

By paying such charges, Medicaid enabled the private chains to reap huge profits. Those profits fueled the chains' rapid growth.

Public hospitals charged less than other hospitals and so received less from the federal government.

Therefore the new prospective pricing system may be hitting private hospitals harder than others. *Modern Healthcare* reports that the new system has

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

lowered hospital earnings. At least some public hospitals, however, are finding their Medicaid earnings increase.

Clearly the reasons for closing public hospitals like County Hospital in St. Louis have nothing to do with efficiency. Yet if present trends continue, public hospitals may be doomed, anyway, along with health care for the poor.

For-profit hospitals, which have a record of turning away indigent patients, are now trying to get a lock on paying patients. Each of the four largest chains has started its own insurance preferred provider organization or health maintenance organization to compete for employer-paid health insurance programs. The idea is to channel such patients to the chains' hospitals and affiliated doctors. Employees covered by such programs cannot go elsewhere for medical care unless they pay it themselves.

The for-profit chains are also buying university teaching hospitals. That will enable them not only to emphasize research which promises to be most profitable, but also to determine if university doctors will continue to staff public hospitals or serve indigent patients, and how much to charge the public for such services.

Thus local government officials are finding that the for-profit chains are squeezing public hospitals on all sides. Rather than face the burden of providing medical care to the indigent alone, while paying more for staff and losing paying patients, they join up with the for-profits. It doesn't guarantee good medical care, and it virtually assures that some people will not get care at all, but it enables local governments to put a cap on costs.

©Copyright 1985 by Cooperative News Service.

Free Trial Subscription!

We would like to introduce you and your friends to the Progressive Review, a journal of progressive politics and ideas that has been comforting the afflicted and afflicting the comfortable for more than 19 years. If you are a hard-core recidivist progressive, or just feel you may not be getting the whole story from the conventional media, you will want to read the Review. If you and/or your friends are not past or present subscribers we will be glad to send **free** trial subscriptions. Just fill out the form below and mail it to us. **Of course, if you already believe in what we are doing, we would welcome our regular $6 subscription or a $20 supporting subscription.** If you do send in the regular fee or a contribution, we will send you a copy of **Flotsam & Jetsam,** a book-length collection of essays by Review editor Sam Smith.

MAIL TO: The Progressive Review, 1739 Conn. Ave NW, DC 20009
( ) $6 regular subscription ( ) $20 contributing subscription ( ) Free trial

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____

COMPLIMENTS OF _____

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

In order for a poor country to survive it must constantly embark on bold but sensible initiatives for social change. What African young people see are leaders afraid of real social change, fearing that it might render their own roles redundant.

Such leaders regard stagnation as a blessing, worrying that the alternative can only be contraction of the economy.

Its youth well aware of such depressing realities, how will Africa find and nurture the leaders it will need in the decades to come?

Copyright PNS

HOUSING: The new dream house

Kathleen Mackay

Kathleen Mackay, who writes frequently on art and architecture for the San francisco Examiner, is co-authoring a book of the first two years of a child's life, called "Off to a Great Start" to be published in January by W.W. Norton & Co.

When most young Americans embarking on careers or starting families buy a home, the traditional problems they encounter are scraping together a down payment and tackling the mortgage. The real estate horror stories abound.

Yet according to Dolores Hayden, who spent the last 10 years questioning architects, designers, urban planners, working mothers and other housing experts, Americans looking for a home face a dilemma much more fundamental than price.

In a provocative new book, "Redesigning the American Dream," (Norton), Hayden argues that housing today simply does not fit the realities of the late 20th century, and that we have outgrown the "dream house" of the post-World War II era.

Hayden, a professor at UCLA's Graduate School of Architecture and Urban Planning, offers numerous statistics to support her argument:

- While three-bedroom houses are still designed for the stereotype of the returning World War II veteran and his wife and kids, today only a small percentage of American families include a male breadwinner, non-employed housewife, and two or more children under 18. The predominant type is the family with two wage-earners, and the fastest increasing family type is the single-parent family; and nine out of ten single parents are women.
- House sizes have been increasing for 30 years (from an average of 800 square feet and one-and-a-half baths to 1,600 square feet and two and a half baths). Meanwhile the average household size in the United States has been decreasing, from 3.37 persons in 1950 to 2.75 persons in 1980. Almost one quarter of all American households consist of one person living alone.
- The average price of a single-family home rose to $87,6000 in 1982 from $28,000 in 1970. (This inflation was exacerbated as 30 million baby-boom children of the post-World War II era came of home-buying age in the 1970s. An equivalent or greater number will reach their 30s in the 1980s.)
- To lower housing costs, many working couples now commute long distances to remote suburbs where land is cheaper. By the late 1970s. the journey to work averaged nine miles one way; Americans owned 41 percent of the world's passenger cars, and had more cars than children per household.

All of these trends suggest that new types of housing are in order. "We're at a stage now where many young people are interested in coming to terms with some of the social and economic changes involved in the politics of design," Hayden points out. But, she says, "There's a real shortage of demonstration projects to look at that address these needs and provide new solutions. One of the problems is finding developers who are really interested in innovation, and who can see that many women would prefer to have day-care rather than a fancy vanity or a microwave oven."

If people become committed to some of these ideas, Hayden believes, major and much needed changes can take place. "In the last five to 10 years, many people decided to commit to solar energy, and to make buildings barrier-free for the disabled," she says. "And they did it. In the next 10 years, we can make a concern for women and children part of good architectural practice."

Hayden's ideas are not without successful precedent. Vanport City, Ore., was built for "Rosie the Riveter" families in 1943, families headed by female workers. Nicknamed Kaiserville after the industrialist who owned the shipyards where Rosie worked, Vanport City met the needs of a wartime labor force. Its builders responded to the need for affordable

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

AFRICA: Youth with little hope

A.M. Babu

A.M. Babu is a commentator on African and Third World affairs now based in London. He was formerly economic development minister in Tanzania and for six years a political prisoner. He is a contributing editor of Africa Events.

It is not enviable to be a youth in Africa today.

In the 1940s and 1950s the anti-colonial struggle gave the continent's young an honorable cause to fight for; the 1960s were years of independence and hope; the 1970s were years of the "gathering cloud," and the 1980s have so far been years of disasters and humiliation.

Today there is no room for ideals and ideas; the principal preoccupation of every African, including the youth, is bare survival.

The exception, of course, is in South Africa, where young people are the prime force in the revolt against apartheid and white rule. But their movement grows despite the indifference of those governing neighboring independent countries, which seem more interested in vicious power struggles and creating the conditions for their own civil wars.

Not a single African government has allowed, much less initiated, mass demonstrations in its own country in support of black South Africa's struggle.

Meanwhile, imagine a youth in Uganda, which recently underwent only the latest in a series of inconsequential coups and countercoups that now have become part of our political culture in Africa's post-colonial history.

That youth witnesses soldiers, the very people sworn to defend the nation, in a looting spree. He sees political leaders appointed by the army instead of vice versa. Among the contenders there is no trace of any sense of loyalty to a shared vision—only a crude scramble for office.

He sees other African nations being run incompetently, with upside-down priorities. Instead of developing, economies are actually deteriorating. Super-inflations are matched only by super-unemployment, while the most productive sectors often stand still or slide backwards.

These nations survive through the generous handouts of foreign countries, very often ex-colonial powers, and leaders try to elevate this begging degradation to a political virtue. No new skills are learned because industrial and modern agricultural activity has virtually collapsed.

The budding industrial work force, the harbinger of a new future, is systematically being cut back as factories lay off workers who are then sent back to villages to revert back to peasantry and backwardness.

All too often, African youth see their political leaders, whom they are supposed to respect, corruptly amassing wealth and state power while their own family makes do with the bare minimum for survival. And young people know they are politically powerless to do anything about it.

It is immaterial whether they grow up in Africa's so-called "stable" countries or in the "unstable" ones. Today, neither inspires that enthusiasm which accompanies anticipation of real social change. The "stable" governments are those two or three which have not suffered a successful military coup—though not for want of trying. Right now, in fact, treason trials against failed coupmakers are underway in every such nation.

Their stable governments are too static, too centrally and rigidly controlled, too uninspiring to offer the young any real challenges. The price of stability, it seems, is the stifling of youthful dynamism.

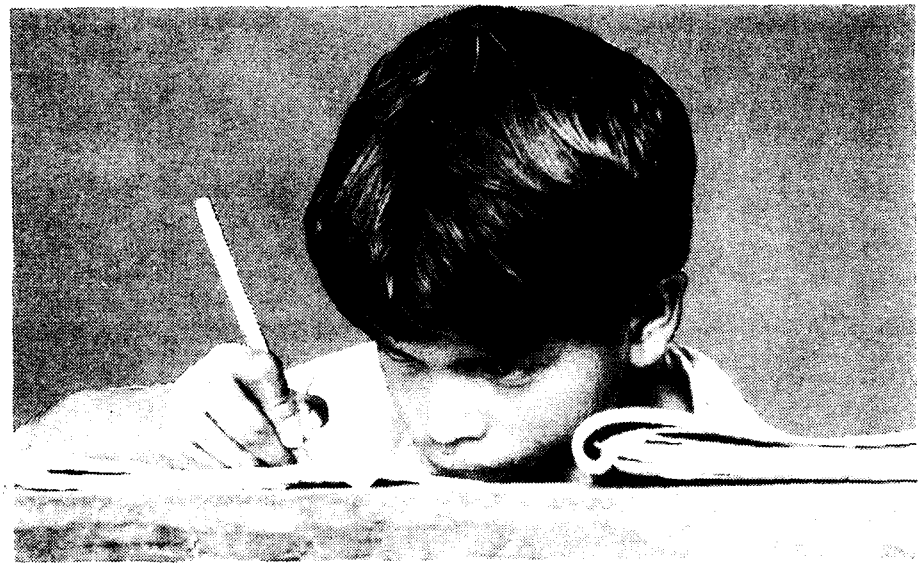
On the other hand, the non-stable governments are naturally too shaky and too transitional for the youthful zest to flourish. Imagine the attitudes of an adolescent in a country under its sixth coup-government which is desperately engaged in maneuvers to forestall a seventh.

The entire "leadership" is in disrepute because they are all military conspirators who, had they failed in their own coup, would have been hanged. They are known to have taken the oath to defend and safeguard the constitution of the state but in the end plotted to overturn the same state and its institutions. Is a young citizen of such a country likely to be a committed patriot?

The youth see this diminishing political morality accompanied by deteriorating intellectual leadership. As one African country after another has fallen under generals' jackboots, colleges and universities often open and shut according to the prevailing nod of the head of state who, whatever his academic competence, is automatically the Chancellor.

(Idi Amin of Uganda, for example, elevated himself overnight from a semi-literate soldier to a "Doctor of Philosophy" and the chancellorship of that country's Makerere University.)

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED



Daniel Suman

Ocotal, Nicaragua

Dear Americans,

When I was 4 we didn't have any schools or doctors or land to grow food. That's why my family fought against the dictator Somoza.

But now your government is trying to destroy all we are building. Everyone says the American people are good. They SAY if you knew what was happening you would stop the war.

Please Stop This War and Give Me and My Country a Chance to Grow.

Your friend,
Daniel

Give Nicaragua a Chance.

☐ **YES!** I'd like to help. Please rush me details on what I can do.

☐ Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution of $_____ to help with your work.

NAME_____

ADDRESS_____

CITY_____ STATE_____ ZIP_____

Mail to: Institute for Food and Development Policy, 1885 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA 94103—3584

©1985 Institute for Food and Development Policy, San Francisco, CA

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

housing, on-the-job training and economic development for workers, and recognized that single parents and families with two wage-earners require extensive child-care services in order to give their best energies to production.

Vanport City had public transportation connecting housing with the workplace and a 24-hour child-care center with an infirmary where sick children were immediately treated. Parents could pick up a hot casserole at the center when they picked up their children after work. Large window at the center offered children a view of their parents' workplace, so they weren't cut off from the jobs their parents performed.

"It was a functional solution that engineers came up with quickly because they had to get those women into the labor force," Hayden says. The U.S. government supplied the $26 million needed to build the housing.

"When I describe this, people frequently think I'm talking about some kind of feminist never-never land we might get to in the 21st century," Hayden says.

Through her books and research, Hayden has brought together the fields of urban history, architectural analysis and women's studies — something that until now hadn't been done. To stimulate new thinking about what housing should do to support our lives, she has offered practical suggestions of her own.

One concept Hayden and her partner Ena Dubnoff describe sounds similar to that of Vanport City, and is designed to include child-care facilities in an 80-square-foot space between four apartment units. The central room is lined with window seats, so parents minding the children from each apartment have sight lines through large windows to watch the tots play.

The laundry room of the complex is a warm and comfortable areas with seating that looks out onto a playground. Parents can watch their children from a cozy place while doing the laundry, rather than having to enter a dark, damp basement room. Another area in the complex can serve as a car wash for teenagers who want to run a business after school.

Hayden is striving for changes like these in city planning proposals, and hopes to put into motion some of the ideas from her books through her firm. The key, she stresses, is awakening among Americans ideas of alternatives to the American "dream house" even as more and more homeowners and potential buyers find themselves frustrated by homes that aren't designed to meet their modern needs.

Copyright PNS

Patriotism & nationalism

By nationalism. . . .I mean the habit of identifying oneself with a single nation or other unit, placing it beyond good and evil and recognizing no other duty than that of advancing its interest. By patriotism I mean a devotion to a particular place and a particular way of life, which one believes to be the best in the world, but has no wish to force upon other people. Patriotism is of its nature defensive, both militarily and culturally. Nationalism, on the other hand, is inseparable from the desire for power. . . .It can plausibly be argued, for instance — it is even arguably true — that patriotism is an innoculation against nationalism."

— George Orwell

The Progressive Review
1739 Connecticut Ave NW
Washington DC 20009

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

LONDON LETTER: Trouble for the monarchy

Des Wilson

After the near-hysterical media coverage of the recent visit to the United States by Princess Diana and her husband, you will not need to be convinced that she has done much to re-establish the glamour of British royalty.

It has been largely because of the warmth, bravery, and dignity of the Queen's father, King George VI, particularly in the war years, that the Royal Family has retained so much public affection in Britain. The continued public presence of his wife, the Queen Mother, helps. Otherwise, it is difficult to understand how it is that the monarchy remains as stable and unchallenged in Britain today as it has for centuries. The Queen's personality is such that in any other form of public life she would disappear without trace. Prince Philip has never been a popular personality, and were he in politics would be to the right of the Conservative Party. All of the royal family live in a world largely isolated from reality. Only Princess Anne has established some independence and occasionally appeared to put a foot onto the same ground the rest of us occupy.

Yet, as the Queen's Silver Jubilee showed, the affection is still there, the acceptance of their role in the British constitution as safe as ever.

Princess Diana has added much-needed glamour. Of greater importance, she has added a hint of human personality to a family and institution surprisingly lacking it. Now, however, over the royal family, and the position of the monarch in particular, there develops a cloud. It is more than possible that in late 1987 or in 1988 the constitutional position of the monarch could be put under serious strain for the first time since the abdication crisis of the late 1930's. The cause of it could be the failure of any political party in Britain to obtain a majority at the next general election.

For the first time, the British voter will be confronted with a genuine three-party choice. In addition to the Conservatives and Labour, there will be the Alliance (the Social Democratic Party and the Liberal Party). Although these three contested the last election, the Alliance was not then seen as a serious contender for power. Over the past two years, however, it has consistently won about a third of the sample in opinion polls, and on a number of occasions it has been shown to be out in front.

Few expect the Alliance to achieve a majority and be able to form an administration itself. For a start, there is bound to be some retreat to the two main parties by their traditional supporters as the day comes closer. Second, the first-past-the-post electoral system means that the Alliance has to achieve more votes to obtain parliamentary seats than either of the other parties. Third, because the Conservatives have the support of business, and Labour the support of the unions, each has considerable financial backing not available to the Alliance, the party more representative of the individual than the power bloc.

It is, however, more than possible that the Alliance will frustrate the ambitions of the other parties and hold the balance of power. We will have what is known as a "hung parliament."

For those academics who have devoted years of their lives to study of the constitution, this is heaven itself. Suddenly they are rushed in taxis to radio and television programmes to pontificate on what will happen. Seminars are being held all over the place. And at the centre of the debate is "what will happen to the Queen?"

It is the Queen who invites someone to form an administration. After an election, the palace telephones the leader of the party with the majority of seats in the House of Commons. This individual is then driven to the palace to have an audience with the Queen. He or she assures the monarch that he or she has the parliamentary support to form an administration, kisses hands, and drives to Downing Street to take over.

But what if there is no clear winner? Whom does the Queen call to the palace?

It is clear that the Prime Minister actually is not called upon to resign until he or she fails to obtain a vote of confidence in the House of Commons. Thus, if Mrs. Thatcher leads the party with the most Commons seats after the next election, she could, if she wished, carry on till defeated on a vote of confidence in the House. She could do this either by negotiation with the minority parties to put together a coalition of support, or by pursuing a set of policies that would be difficult for the opposition to defeat. Given the nature of Mrs. Thatcher, this is all very unlikely.

What worries the constitutionalists, and particularly those who would prefer the monarch to be kept as far away from politics as possible, is the range of

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

options open to the Queen: she may ask Mrs. Thatcher to carry on, only to be told that Mrs. Thatcher is satisfied she cannot do so. Or Mrs. Thatcher may try and be defeated.

She may then call Neil Kinnock, leader of the Labour Party, to the palace and he may form an administration, only to be defeated within a matter of days or weeks. He may then ask the Queen to dissolve parliament and call another election.

It is, however, questionable that she has to do so. Many believe she should then call David Steel or David Owen, the leaders of the Alliance, and invite them to have a try.

And I could continue, for with every day the permutations increase, the options appear endless.

What is clear is that the option supported by one party is unlikely to please the others. The Queen may be put in a position of taking a political (or apparently political) decision or of being accused of having done so.

What particularly fascinate me, however, are the attempts by some to save the Queen from becoming involved in all this. Being considered are some alternative mechanisms for taking the decisions should we have a balance of power.

To me this would be the ultimate absurdity, for we have maintained a monarchy at considerable expense over many years, trained successive monarchs for the role, sustained the whole affair because it cements the British constitution, and then the moment it is called upon to demonstrate its value, people start to find a way of "keeping it out of controversy"—i.e. saving it from fulfilling the function which appears to be the only valid reason for its existence.

Yes, the Royal Family has finally become of genuine constitutional and political interest once more. It may, therefore, need all the public goodwill that Princess Di can create for it. Watch this space...

Des Wilson has been elected president of the Liberal Party. He chairs Friends of the Earth in Great Britain and has been a leader in the fight against lead pollution. He is currently heading a campaign for a British Freedom of Information Act.

●

Back when women did all the grocery shopping, researchers discovered they headed to the right as soon as they entered the store and wheeled their carts counter-clockwise. That's why essentials—like the meat department—are usually located on the left—so shoppers take a tour of the store before picking up the basics. Now men are doing more and more grocery shopping, and the cart-watchers have noticed they start to the left, and shop clockwise.

EUGENE McCARTHY TV warnings

I note that there is a movement, inspired, it seems, principally by wives of members of Congress, to set up a rating or censorship procedure for rock music.

There are, it seems, bad words and thoughts beneath or amid all the noise and shouting that make up rock. The proposal is that a warning be put on the record or tape, something like that on cigarette packages and comparable to the rating system used on movies.

If the proposal carries, I anticipate that warnings will have to be given in broadcasts of rock programs, and in radio programs, advising that the sound should be turned down on a record if there are persons under 21, or under 16, or under 10, in the room. Young audiences would be advised that they may listen to the record if their parents are present and ready to give explanations and guidance, as they are supposed to do about some movies.

I don't have very strong feelings about this rating system. I don't feel that it will have much effect on those who are attracted to rock music. It could, of course, spread to country music, banning or at least warning against songs like "The Gambler," or "The Coward of the County," or the one about the "lipstick on my bowling shirt," or the one with the refrain "Nobody wants to play rhythm guitar behind Jesus; Everyone wants to be the number one singer in the band," as reflecting on religion.

Television has long carried warnings about programs about to be presented, something akin to those imagined by Yeats for those who might enter the Sistine Chapel while Michelangelo was working on the ceiling, "Close the door to the pope's chapel; put the children out." The television warnings advise that forthcoming scenes may be too much for young eyes and minds. Some are. But I have yet to see a warning for children or adults to beware of the advertisements about to be shown, that they may be vulgar, obscene, show disrespect, even ridicule, for religion.

I was struck by this after watching Dan Rather, showing great compassion for the victims of the earthquake in Mexico City, finish the evening news with a deeply religious reflection on the meaning of life and death in Mexico City. His reflection was preceded by an advertisement for hemorrhoidal relief (Anusol in this case), and was followed immediately by an advertisement featuring a man in a Roman col-

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

lar, presumably a priest, demonstrating virtues of Polident for cleaning and whitening false teeth.

Here, too, as in the case of the rating system for rock music warnings, I have no certain position. But if we are going to get into warnings and admonitions of what can and cannot be safely watched or heard, I have an opinion.

I would place first in importance advance warnings that some programs to be presented should not be watched by policemen or law enforcement officers. I suspect that the bombing of the MOVE group in Philadelphia may well have been encouraged by police officers watching television lawmen using helicopters in their protective maneuvers. Patrolmen in automobiles certainly must be encouraged to reckless pursuit by watching the almost nightly automobile chases through the streets of major cities, and possibly are encouraged to shoot by the quick and ready use of guns by both male and female television police officers.

Other programs might well depress regular policemen or force detectives, who are presented as relatively, if not absolutely, stupid, and regularly saved from folly by the brilliance of private detectives. Sheriffs, too, probably should be forewarned, as their image on television is that of someone even more stupid than city police, that is since the demise of "The Andy Griffith Show."

•

It follows, then, that doctors should be warned against shows like "General Hospital," and lawyers against "People's Court." As I no longer have small children at home, I have personally concentrated my efforts on my dog, Molly, whom I have banned from watching a Saturday morning program called "Scoobie-Doo," which features a dog that could potentially encourage vices such as cowardice and gluttony in dog viewers.

CHARLES MCDOWELL

Occupied Washington

"Sit down and relax. Lie down if you like," the doctor said. "Now tell me what seems to be the trouble."

"Frustration. Anger. I get mad whenever I come into Washington these days."

"That happens to a lot of people. Some people undergo a good deal of trauma at the very thought of Washington. It represents a kind of adversary authority in their lives. What makes it so frustrating is that they think the authority is addled, that it's incoherent, doesn't know what it's doing," the doctor said.

"That's not my problem, doctor. I'm used to it. I work here. What I'm mad at is people. You know, real people."

"I see. Your anger is directed at individuals in the administration, Congress, the bureaucrats."

"No. I like them all right, everything considered."

"Oh," the doctor said. He leaned back in his chair and frowned. He had a more serious case here than he had expected.

"Doctor, what's driving me crazy is people in the street, people in cars, people just wandering around Washington and not knowing what they're doing."

"Who do you imagine these threatening people to be?"

"I don't have to imagine anything. I know who they are. They are tourists. Tourists! They come swarming into Washington every holiday season. This was the worst Thanksgiving in history, a plague of tourists. They just occupied the town. You'd think they owned it."

"Try to be calm," the doctor said. "Tell me how tourists threaten you."

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

"They don't threaten me, for heaven's sake. They drive me crazy. They block the streets in their stupid cars because they don't know the only parking places are in Virginia or Maryland. They turn left where they aren't supposed to because they are so dumb.

"They shuffle around in great herds from museum to museum, gaping at monuments and crossing streets in the middle of the block. How are we going to do our work — the nation's work — with all these bumpkins clogging up the city?"

"I'll admit the traffic flow hasn't been ideal in the vicinity of the Mall, but. . . ."

"Traffic flow? Doctor, you know as well as I do that the idea of traffic flowing in Washington recently is a bad joke. Yesterday, in the middle of the afternoon, it took me over an hour to get out of my parking garage on G Street and across the 14th Street bridge. These tourists are a scandal is what they are."

"How do you know the people causing the traffic jams — and the pedestrian jams, too — aren't Christmas shoppers from our own community?" he asked.

"Because these people aren't grim and surly like Christmas shoppers. These people are just bemused, confused, out of it. These are tourists, I tell you, and they couldn't find the Gallery Place subway station with both hands."

★ ★ ★

"You should make some appointments for further therapy," the doctor said, flipping through an appointment calendar. "Is that something you are willing to do?"

"I guess so, if you say so. And if I can beat my way through the invading hordes. My office is just six blocks away, doctor, but I have to cross the main migration trail. The whole zone between the National Gallery of Art and the White House is like Saturday night at a county fair — solid rubes."

"Pending our next appointment," the doctor said, "I urge you to try to grasp one simple truth. That is that these people who traumatize you are the citizens of the United States."

"Citizens? Driving vans and big, lumpy station wagons? Trying to turn left into Pennsylvania Avenue? Herding all over the Elipse, trying to find the Jefferson Memorial?"

"Citizens, visiting their capital," the doctor said. "Putting up with the arrogance of the inhabitants. Somehow finding the spirit of Mr. Jefferson even in this smug city."

"You're corny, doc, but you make a good point. I hope you make that speech to all the politicians you see."

"The politicians don't have the problem," he said. "They have to identify with the people. It's the rest of us in Washington who'd benefit from having to face re-election occasionally. But we can talk about it again. For now, be prepared to write a very sophisticated Washington check for the receptionist on your way out."

(Richmond Times Dispatch)

ARCHIHORSE IS IN TRAINING
FOR THE KENTUCKY DERBY.
HE'LL BE BACK NEXT MONTH

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

THE WORLD

Takoma Park becomes a sanctuary

Takoma Park has declared itself a sanctuary for Salvadorean and Guatemalan refugees. The legislation also prohibits city officials from aiding the federal immigration service in taking action against refugees. Five other American cities have passed similar legislation. Supporters of the move argue that federal restrictions have denied political asylum to all but about 3% of would-be defectors from El Salvador and Guatemala. The legislation also prohibits city officials from asking about the citizenship or residency status of any city resident and from releasing such information to federal authorities. Other sanctuary cities are Berkeley, Cambridge, Ithaca, St. Paul and Duluth.

Sister city plans

Efforts are afoot to make Bluefields, Nicaragua, a sister city of Washington. Bluefields is on Nicaragua's Atlantic coast. It receives 160 inches of rain a year and is so entrenched by tropical forests that it is inaccessible by road. Current sister cities of DC are Dakar, Bangkok and Peking. New Haven and Seattle already have sister cities in Nicaragua.

Writing in the Washington Peace Center Newsletter, Barbara Ruben says:

"Bluefields is the capital of the largest province in Nicaragua. Travellers from the country's major population centers or from the interior must either boat or canoe. . . .or arrive on planes. . . .Christopher Columbus was the first European to arrive in Bluefields, which as named after a Dutch pirate, Abraham Blauvelt. Most of the city's citizens are black, known as Creoles. The city is also comprised of Mesitzos (Spanish and Indian) and a few Chinese. Fishing is Bluefield's primary economic activity.

"Much of the historical relationship between Bluefields and the US has been negative, including a project proposed by Abraham Lincoln that never got underway to resettle freed Afro-Americans in the Bluefields area and an invasion of the city by the US army in 1909. . . .Most recently, US-funded Contra forces set fire to the 'Bluefields Express,' the main ferry and means of transportation to the city by local residents."

The proposal to make Bluefields a sister city is being pushed by the Washington, DC — Bluefields Sister City Project. (Info: Jim Sober: 234-4556). As part of the effort, the local singing group, Sweet Honey in the Rock, is travelling to Bluefields this month for concerts.

Meanwhile, a similar effort is underway to make Moscow a sister city of DC. Members of the DC Freeze Advisory Board have been taking the lead here. (Info: Charlotte Goodwin, 333-0796 or Fritzi Cohen 337-8753)

Supporting Subscriptions

Many small circulation political and alternative journals keep going with the aid of supporting subscribers who contribute a sum in addition to the normal subscription fee to aid the publication in its work. You will note on your renewal form that there is such a category. We hope you will indicate your support of our efforts by subscribing with a contribution above the normal fee. Or you may renew right now by sending us your mailing label and a contribution. Mail to the Progressive Review, 1739 Conn. Ave. NW, DC 20009

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

Roses & Thorns

ROSES TO ELIZABETH TUCKER AND MORTON MINTZ of the Washington Post for their series on lie detectors (predictably hidden in the Post's weekly business section). Tucker and Mintz point out that a number of firms are having job applicants given polygraph tests in the suburbs (which lack restrictions on such tests) and then assigning them to DC outlets as a way of getting around DC's prohibition on such tests. The story, which reveals the shocking extent of polygraph use by area businesses, is another example of the low level of civil liberties in large corporations.

THORNS TO DC MAYOR MARION BARRY for his comment during the rent control fight: "I don't think you should run government by referendum." Barry supported the initiative and referendum bill when it came up before the council. Besides Marion, somebody's got to run the government.

ROSES TO MONTGOMERY COUNTY EXECUTIVE CHARLES GILCHRIST for his efforts to revoke the franchise of the county's cable tv operator after the operator proposed to renege on agreed upon services, fees and timetables.

PG pledge of resistance

A group of Prince Georges County residents concerned about the deepening US role in Central America have formed a Pledge of Resistance planning group. The group meets twice a month. Info: Keats Kirsch, 779-1952 or Lucy Duff, 577-2350.

•

The Prince Georges County Council has voted to restrict county transactions with companies that do business with South Africa. The county action follows passage of a law in DC that prohibits the city from investing in banks and other institutions that trade with SA and an executive order in Montgomery County banning the investment of county pension funds in such institutions.

ECONOMICS

The DC Council, which seems to be running a legislation lottery for big business, followed up its approval of interstate banking, with **emergency** legislation. The emergency was that United Virginia Bankshares wants to take over National Savings & Trust and if it waits for the interstate banking law to go into effect, it will lose some $4 million because of federal tax law changes. Not only that, the council eliminated the requirement that the merger application be sent to the council 30 days before going to the Federal Reserve Board.

Charlene Jarvis argued that the merger would allow the institution to make loans for a single project of $60 million, up from the current $10 million. Translated, this means more money for hyper-development, just what the city doesn't need.

Meanwhile, the newly formed DC Reinvestment Alliance has filed a protest with the Federal Reserve Board allegedly that NS&T has inadequate record of loaning to minorities and low and moderate income residents. United Virginia, which Jarvis boasts of being able under the merger to make loans of up to $60 million for a single project, told the city council that it would invest $5 million in community development for "worthwhile" projects within three years of the merger.

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

EDUCATION

UDC: Looking of for a leader

UDC, reeling from the resignation under pressure of its latest president and intensive scrutiny by the DC council, might well consider the history of the DC school board. After a succession of hotshots who went sour, the board finally settled on one of its own, Floretta McKenzie. We suspect that one of the reasons that McKenzie was chosen was that at least some of the board noticed how well things ran when she was interim superintendent during a couple of interregna. It was not just that she was competent, but that she could function without all the pressure caused by unrealistic expectations on the part of the system and unrealistic ambitions on the part of the leader. It seems to us that the best thing UDC could do right now is to simmer down for a while, muddle along, get out of the limelight and get its act together before seeking another president. The best talent search the board of trustees could conduct would be a long one.

Making the best of it

Problems such as those at UDC present a stunning challenge to a public relations staff, and the UDC PR department deserves an award for effort, if not for achievement, in its latest issue of Insights, a glossy publication about the school. In an introductory statement, the magazine draws parallels with the British burning the Capital in 1812, the defeat of Alamo, Pearl Harbor, retreat from Vietnam, slavery, the Civil War, the Great Depression, the civil rights movement and Watergate to show that one can rise from disaster. It goes on: "Though injury recently has been suffered by this university and its student body, the wound is by no means fatal. The school's recuperative powers will shortly make of this incident exactly what time makes of all events: bearable instruction, at worst; fond memories, at best."

There follows two pages of text and photos devoted to each of the past three presidents:

Lyle Carter's administration "will be remembered as a period of stability at a time when chaos might have reigned supreme had a lesser hand been at the helm."

Benjamin Alexander "brought with him an energetic administrative approach that sometimes clashed with the views of other university officials."

Robert Green "brought a refreshing style and high hopes for a new era of progressivism at the university. Unfortunately, allegations of fiscal mismanagement put an end to his UDC presidency after only 22 months."

The current interim president (for a second time) is Claude A. Ford, who, Insights tells us, is providing "continuity and confidence."

MEDIA

Taking on the cable TV franchisers

While other communities, such as DC, have caved in when cable tv franchisers have begun reneging on their promises, Montgomery County Executive Charles Gilchrist moved swiftly to revoke the franchise with the Tribune-United Corporation after that company demanded various concessions, including cutting the number of channels in half, reducing the franchise fee, delaying construction and holding up payments to the public-access channel. Gilchrist says that under county laws, the county could take over the system following administrative hearings and county council review. Only 18,000 of a potential 43,000 Montgomery County subscribers are hooked up to the cable system.

Says county councilmember David Scull, "The cable company has failed repeatedly to live up to virtually all of its contractual promises for cable

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

television construction, equipment, funding and service."

PEOPLE

DC Fire Department lieutenant **Patrick J. Walsh**, former Smithsonian electrician **John Payne** and **Ruby Hunt** were among those who received the second annual Karen Silkwood Awards from the Christic Institute. Walsh and Payne were honored for their roles in blowing the whistle on leaking PCBs in Smithsonian transformers. Payne was subsequent terminated by the Smithsonian. Hunt, a cook at McKinley High School, was honored for leading the fight to clean up asbestos in the DC public schools.

UDC's loss is George Mason's gain as **Stephen Diner**, noted local historian and director of the DC Center for Applied Research and Urban Policy prepares to move to a high post in the latter institution.

ROADSIGNS

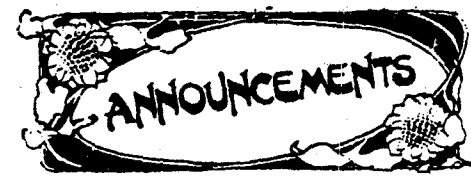
DC'S population loss slowed between 1980 and 1984 according to new city population estimates. The city in 1984 had 626,000 residents, down 1.8% from 1980. The city lost about eight people a day during the period.

•

Enrollment at UDC fell 4% between 1982-83 and 1983-84 to 13,500 students. There are more than six times as many freshmen at the school as there are seniors. The biggest drop-out occurs between freshman and sophomore year when the class size is cut by more than two-thirds. Foreign enrollment also fell at UDC during the period, down to less than 1000 students, with about a third of them coming from Nigeria.

•

According to a COG report about $3 billion in office, hotel, retail and other non-residential construction was started near Metro stops between 1980 and this year.



The Capital Area Community Food Bank is looking for volunteers to help in the fight against hunger. Info: 526-5344

•

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals is looking for volunteers. Info: 726-0156

•

This year's Martin Luther King Jr. dinner will feature Jesse Jackson as the speaker. Info on the Jan. 15 event: 541-5000 or 927-8495.

This publication is available in microform from University Microfilms International.

☐ Please send information about these titles:

Name _____

Company/Institution _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone ( ) _____

Call toll-free 800-521-3044. Or mail inquiry to: University Microfilms International, 300 North Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48106.

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

DISAPPEARING WASHINGTON

Lost

Northeast, DC: The Langston Theatre, 2501 Benning Road NE, a streamlined art deco movie house by the same architect who designed the Uptown Theatre, has been torn down and replaced by a fast food restaurant. No landmark application had been pending, but the theatre was on a list of 400 properties submitted to the preservation office two years ago. The demolition caught preservationists by surprise.

•

Friendship Heights, DC: National Savings & Trust the Chevy Chase Land Company have asked for final review for a planned unit development on the southeast corner of Wisconsin and Western. Plans call for a hotel, office and retail space.

•

Georgetown, DC: Federal appeals court gives go ahead for a $56 million luxury hotel and office complex that was opposed by residents and environmentalists. The site, at the edge of Rock Creek Park, was subject to height restrictions, but the Park Service lifted those restrictions in return for a public walkway along Rock Creek and the Potomac waterfront. It was this deal the suit opposed. Plaintiffs included the Committee of 100, the Human Environment Center, the Environmental Policy Institute and the Committee for Washington's Riverfront Parks.

•

Fairfax County, Va: The county board of supervisors have approved the rezoning of 190 acre parcel of residential land to industrial use, permitting the tract to become part of the huge Westfields project, which will eventually have twice the office space of Tysons Corner. The $2 billion project will have about 9 million square feet of industrial space, 2.4 million square feet of light industrial and about 1.8 million square feet of research and development space. Only supervisor Audry Moore voted against the project. Chair John Herrity said that opposing the project now would be like a "retroactive abortion." Residents of Brookfield opposed the plan saying that it would add to traffic and congestion.

•

Alexandria, Va.: The seven-square-mile West End of Alexandria is under a development seige. City officials estimate that residential high-rises will double and office buildings triple in the next five years. The Post recently listed 17 major projects underway or on the boards. Over $300 million in construction has been approved this year alone.

•

Lorton, Va: The Fairfax supervisors have given approval that will allow increased development on a 930 acre tract near Lorton prison. The community objected to the change so close to the prison and to increasing the area's traffic load.

Endangered

Anacostia, DC: Although the talk about St.Elizabeths currently centers on mental health issues, the underlying story concerns land development. The mayor and his developer friends have their eyes on the beautiful and historical 336-acre site. Plans, following the takeover from the feds by DC, include dispersing many patients to neighborhood facilities and moving other parts to the east (and less valuable) side of ML King Ave. Mayor Barry already has said that an unidentified university has expressed interest in the location and, during a recent tour, the mayor remarked: "I am sure a developer would like to put up some housing there overlooking the city." Stay tuned.

•

Adams Morgan, DC: McDonalds wants to tear down its outlet at the corner of 18th & Columbia Rd NW. The ANC originally approved the scheme, now has backed off after reviewing the plans for the replacement. It's an 1899 Waddy Wood structure and the brickwork is so good that it was featured in the July 1900 edition of The Brickbuilder.

•

Ballston, Va: Arlington County Board has postponed until Jan. 4 approval of a $200 million office and residential complex. It would include four 13-story office buildings and two 23-story office buildings.

•

Potomac, Md: The US Postal Service plans to build a large post office near the intersection of River and Falls Road over the strong, but so far futile, objections of the community and Montgomery County planners.

•

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

Greenbelt, Md: Planning hearings postponed on proposed hotel, 340 homes and 300,000 square feet of commercial and office space so officials can review conflicting traffic studies. The development would be in the area around Greenbelt Road and the Baltimore-Washington Parkway, which in the past five years has already seen a new shopping center, office park, motel, banquet facility and 350 new homes. One of the most desirable commercial/office locations in the country. Many residents think the area is already overbuilt.

•

Saved

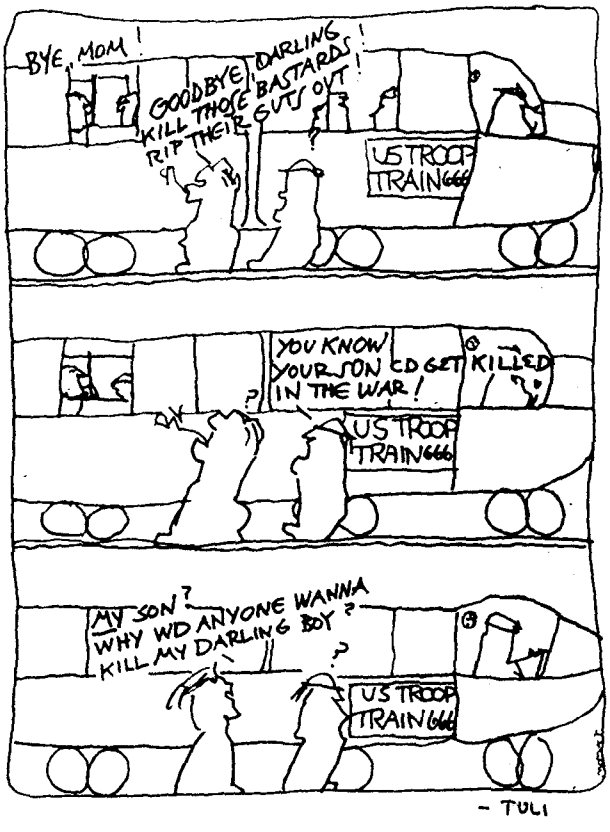
Woodley Park, DC: Indefinite suspension of plans to build suicide barriers on the Ellington and Taft bridges. Suit had been filed by preservationists.

•

Downtown, DC: The C&P Building, 730 12th NW has been designated a DC landmark. Built in 1928, it is one of the earliest examples of deco-influenced architecture in the city. C&P is appealing the ruling.

•

Glen Dale, Md: Opposition from the community has led the PG County Council to reverse itself and vote to delay indefinitely approval of the proposed Bell Station Shopping Center. The matter goes back to a zoning exminer. Said one council member, "You can throw a stone in every direction (and hit) a shopping center" in that area.



LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

OUR BOOKSHELF

ESSAYS

FLOTSAM & JETSAM: Our 15th anniversary issue. A book length collection of essays by editor Sam Smith. Topics cover a wide field incldluing trains, England, music, home computers, football, the humanities, pumping iron, Benjamin Franklin, corruption, ghostwriters, turning forty, Martin Luther King and words & meaning. If you have enjoyed the Review, we believe you will find this collection appealing. $2.00

URBAN AFFAIRS

SELF-RELIANT CITIES: An important book by David Morris, director of the Institute for Local Self Reliance. A look at how energy has transformed the American kcity, from self:sufficient frontier villages based on human and animal power, to industrial towns built by hydro and steam, to our present far-flung and energy-dependent metropolises, products of automobiles and cheap transmission of electricity. Morris explains how soaring energy costs have forced cities to redefine themselves as nations, linking production and consumtption moe closely to retain capital in the local community. Self-Reliant Cities desribes dozens of cities that are already using their municipal authority to finance and regulate decentralized, renewable energy systems. $8.95

NEIGHBORHOOD POWER: THE NEW LOCALISM: Shows how a potentially self-reliant community moves from the initial stages of community awareness and organization to the creation of service networks and, finally, to the development of neighborhood governments. The first book to make the case for urban self-reliance. $5.95

THE NEW CITY-STATES Written by the director of the Institute for Local Self-Reliance, David Morris, this book describes how America's beleagured cities are looking inward, not outward, for solutions to their problems. Morris explains how cities are redefining their roles in society. $5.95

Progressive Review, 1739 Conn. Ave. NW, DC 20009

Please send the following items. I enclose check or money order

ITEM	PRICE
TOTAL	
6% TAX (DC only).	
POSTAGE & HANDLING. . . .	$1.00
PAY THIS AMOUNT	

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

.....ZIP.....

[ ] Check here if you are not already a subscriber and we'll send you a free trial subscription.

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

REFERENCE

POCKET ENGLISH-HEBREW, HEBREW-ENGLISH DICTIONARY: Over 30,000 vocabulary entries. $3.95

RECREATION

HOW NOT TO LOSE AT POKER: Invaluable advice [illegible] as probabilities for different hands. $3.00

SOLD OUT

BEGINNERS GUIDE TO WINNING CHESS: Chess expert Fred Reinfeld explains how to do it. $3.

COOKING

FIX IT FAST COOKBOOK: 270 recipes you can bring to the table in minutes. $4.95

JOY OF COOKING: Revised an enlarged wih over 4300 recipes. [illegible] best-loved cookbook for more than a quarter of a century. $7.95

SOLD OUT

FICTION

THE PORTABLE WALT WHITMAN: $6.95

THE OLD MAN AND THE SEA: Ernest Hemingway's tragic yet triumphant story of an old Cuban fisherman and his supreme ordeal — a relentless, agonizing battle with a giant marlin out in the Gulf Stream. $2.50

FAREWELL TO ARMS: Ernest Hemingway. $4.95

FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS: Ernest Hemingway. $4.95

PORTABLE SHAKESPEARE: $6.95

PORTABLE ARTHUR MILLER: $6.95

PORTABLE HENRY JAMES $6.95

PORTABLE VOLTAIRE: $6.95

MOBY DICK: Herman Melville. $10.95

THE PORTABLE STEINBECK: Of Mice and Men and The Red Pony complete. Portions of The Long Valley, Tortilla Flat, the Grapes of Wrath, Cannery Row and Travels with Charlie. The Nobel Prize acceptance speech. Was $6.95, now only $4.95

RABBIT IS RICH: John Updike. $3.95

PRIDE AND PREJUDICE: Jane Austen. $1.50

PEACE

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE? More than 30 writers and activists give their thoughts on tactics and strategies for the peace movement. An important compilation of current thinking on the matter published by the A.J. Muste Memorial Institute. $3.00

PSYCHOLOGY

THE PORTABLE JUNG: In making this selection from the vast body of Carl Jung's writings, Joseph Campbell has aimed to introduce the elementary terms and themse of analytical psychology, provide an overall understanding of the scope and direction of Jung's works and enable readers to grasp the bearing of mythic lore upon their own psyches. $6.95

BIOGRAPHY

SALLY HEMMINGS: Barbard Chase-Riboud $2.75

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

BARGAINS

ALL SUPPLIES LIMITED!

THE PORTABLE MILTON: 'Paradise Lost,' 'Paradise Regained,' and 'Samson Agonistes' complete. Selection of poems and prose works. ~~$6.95~~ ~~$5~~ $4

FOR CHILDREN

THE TALE OF PETER RABBIT: ~~$1.95~~ $1

CHARLOTTE'S WEB: ~~$4.50~~ $3

JOHN STEINBECK: GRAPES OF WRATH ~~$3.95~~ ~~$2~~ $1

GEORGE ORWELL: ANIMAL FARM ~~$1.95~~ $1

HUGH JOHNSON'S POCKET ENYCLOPEDIA OF WINE. This guide, which you can peruse discreetly in the liquor store, list the wines of 18 countries complete with data on taste and vintage plus a rating. Also included is a quick reference chart for wines from France and Germany. ~~$6.95~~ ~~$4~~ $3

THE PORTABLE MARK TWAIN: Huckleberry Finn and the Mysterious Stranger complete. Selections from A Connecticut Yankee, Puddn'head Wilson, the Autobiography and other works. Letters, essays, and The Notorious Jumping Frog of Calaveras County. ~~$6.95~~ ~~$4~~ $3

ROBERT FROST'S POEMS: An anthology accompanied by an introduction and commentary by Louis Untermeyer ~~$3.95.~~ ~~$2~~ $1

NICOLAS NICKLEBY by Charles Dickens: ~~$4.50~~ ~~$3~~ $2

DC MAGAZINES: A LITERARY RETROSPECTIVE. This work contains an anthology of pieces from three of Washington's most important literary magazines: Portfolio, Voyages and Dryad. Editor Richard Peabody has also included a listing of literary magazines published here from the 18th century on and a list of alternative newspapers and arts magazines published since the sixties. Was $7.95, now only ~~$6.00~~ ~~$5.00~~ ~~$4.00~~ ~~3.00~~ $2.00

RICHARD BACH: JONATHAN LIVINGSTON SEAGULL ~~$2.00~~ $1

JOHN UPDIKE: RABBIT RUN ~~$3.50~~ ~~$2~~ $1

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

THE PORTABLE HAWTHORNE: 'The Scarlet Letter' complete; selections from 'the House of Seven Gables,''The Blitheside Romance,' 'The Marble Faun,' and thirteen tales. Also selections from notebooks and letters. ~~$5.95~~ ~~#5~~ ~~#4~~ #3

THE STORIES OF JOHN CHEEVER ~~10.50~~ ~~#2~~ #1
HOMER: THE ODYSSEY. ~~2.25~~ #1

CALLIGRAPHY MADE EASY: A beginner's workbook. Easy lessons shows you how to create beautiful lettering for unique gifts, stationary and invitations. ~~$8.95~~ ~~#7~~ ~~#6~~ ~~#5~~ #4

THE RIF SURVIVAL HANDBOOK: How to Manage Your Money if You're Unemployed. John May has written a book about the money side of unemployment and the search for a new job. It shows you how to organize yourself to make ends meet, to handle your cash to gain confidence in yourself and to free yourself to concentrate on what's really important: finding a new job. Covers the field from budgeting to borrowing to bankruptcy. John May is president of a financial planning and management consulting firm that advises government and private organizations. He has run RIF seminars at agencies and organizations for workers losing their jobs. ~~$4.95~~ ~~#3~~ ~~#2~~ #1

THE ESSENTIAL EARTHMAN: Henry Mitchell on Gardening. This is not just another book on gardening but the thoughts of an enthusiast who comes to the subject with reverence, passion, humor and a sober knowledge of human frailty. The Essential Earthman believes, for example, " a lawn 17 by 20 feet is just fine, if you think a lawnless life is not worth living *** But I suspect many gardeners would do well to think of something besides grass and the little noisy juggernauts you cut with." This is a collection of many of Mitchell's most popular pieces from the Washington Post. ~~$12.95~~ ~~#10~~ ~~#9~~ ~~#8~~ ~~#7~~ #6

THE PORTABLE OSCAR WILDE: The complete novel "The Picture of Dorian Gray;" prison memoirs complete and unexpurgated; two complete plays, "Salome" and "The Importance of Being Earnest;" Selections from three major comedies; letters, reviews; poems; "Phrases and Philosophies for the Use of the Young." ~~#5~~ ~~#4~~ #3

THE PORTABLE THOMAS JEFFERSON: Includes "A Summary View of the Rights of British America" and "Notes on the State of Virginia." Also the Declaration of Independence, draft constitution for Virginia, opinion on the constitutionality of a national bank, first inaugural address and letters to George Washington, James Madison, John Adams, John Jay and others. ~~$6.95~~ ~~#5~~ #4

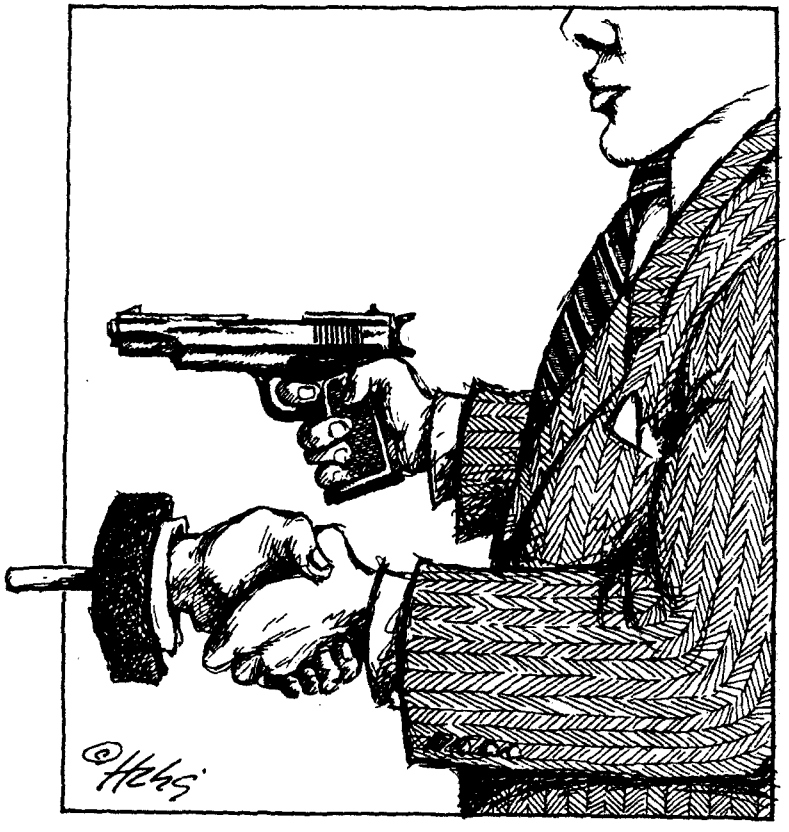
LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

SINCLAIR LEWIS: BABBIT ~~$2.50~~ $1

THE PORTABLE MELVILLE: "Typee" and "Billy Budd" complete, portions of four other novels, stories, travel journals, letters, poems and other writings. ~~$6.95~~ $3

THE FEINGOLD COOKBOOK FOR HYPERACTIVE CHILDREN: If you have a hyperactive child or are worried about food additives this books is full of simple, healthy, tasty recipes. ~~$5.95~~ $2

ERICA JONG: FEAR OF FLYING ~~$3.50~~ $2
JAMES FENIMORE COOPER: THE DEERSLAYER: ~~$3.95~~ $1
CHARLES DICKENS: DAVID COPPERFIELD: ~~$2.50~~ $1



LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

The Progressive Review
1739 Connecticut Ave NW
Washington DC 20009
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Free Trial Subscription!

We would like to introduce you and your friends to the Progressive Review, a journal of progressive politics and ideas that has been comforting the afflicted and afflicting the comfortable for more than 19 years. If you are a hard-core recidivist progressive, or just feel you may not be getting the whole story from the conventional media, you will want to read the Review. If you and/or your friends are not past or present subscribers we will be glad to send **free** trial subscriptions. Just fill out the form below and mail it to us. **Of course, if you already believe in what we are doing, we would welcome our regular $6 subscription or a $20 supporting subscription.** If you do send in the regular fee or a contribution, we will send you a copy of **Flotsam & Jetsam,** a book-length collection of essays by Review editor Sam Smith.

MAIL TO: The Progressive Review, 1739 Conn. Ave NW, DC 20009
( ) $6 regular subscription ( ) $20 contributing subscription ( ) Free trial

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____ **ZIP** _____

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____ **ZIP** _____

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____ **ZIP** _____

COMPLIMENTS OF _____

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED